



# OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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Brian Robert (Beau) Le Prou first joined the Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade in 1978. For the last 25 years he has been the Brigade's secretary. He also writes the Brigade's fortnightly column in this paper.

Now his services to Fire and Emergency New Zealand have been recognised with the award of a QSM in the New Years honours list.

"When a letter arrived in September advising I had been nominated for the Queens Service Medal, I thought it was a joke," Beau says. "I gave it a quick scan, threw it on the bench, and wandered away. After a while it got the better of me. I went back to it, had a jolly good read and a decent look at the imprint of the Coat of Arms at the top, and realised that this was the Real McCoy. Many thoughts were skipping through my mind. Who had tossed my helmet into the ring for selection? Why? Even though I have been in the brigade for 30 odd years, I hadn't done anything exceptional. There are a lot of others around who have been in longer. Was it for my driving skill or lack of, when I slid the fire engine around the Manaia round about? Was it for my role as secretary? I have always put in a bunch of effort in this area and have tried hard to finish with the results I was striving for."

Beau said when he first joined the brigade he hadn't expected to still be there forty years later, although he did spend some time away when he, his wife Denise and children Rene and Camille lived in Perth, Western Australia. After they returned to Opunake, Opunake Fire Chief Colin Butler asked him to take over as secretary.

"In May 2018, I would have clocked up twenty five years in the role and I'm still quite happy so there is a good chance I will continue for a few more years," says Beau.

"I have worked under four fire chiefs, Colin Butler, Rob-



Beau Le Prou

ert Fisher, Rang Fleming and Rodney Woods in my role as secretary. They all had different ways of approaching various problems, issues and the day to day running of the brigade. But at the end of the day, the community benefited from their leadership and direction. They all have been responsible for building the great team we have today, and the community should be very proud of the enthusiasm and dedication they have each given."

The secretary's role has changed a lot in 25 years, with more annual returns needing to be completed, and members' attendance figures

now have to be submitted weekly instead of annually. There are also at least four health and safety meetings every year in addition to the brigade's regular meetings.

Other aspects of the job have not changed.

"I have always thought that if you showed a caring attitude towards our members, this would create a happy atmosphere, and everyone would want to turn up on practice nights for not only training but also the camaraderie. This is why I enjoy the welfare side of things. If I can help one of our members who maybe having a problem or an issue of some kind, or

have had a new addition to their family I usually poke my nose in and try to help."

Among the high points of his time as secretary he lists the purchase of a new Toyota van and trailer for the Fire Police (Fire Support) unit.

"I applied to four different charities and was successful with three of them. The Lotto Commission turned me down. I got on line, saw the Minister in charge of Lotto had a discretionary account and I applied. I was lucky enough to get the remainder of what was required to buy the \$51,000 set-up. It basi-

cally cost our brigade nothing and we ended up with a very worthwhile piece of kit. It carries extra personnel, a bunch of equipment, and the trailer and the van can be placed at either end of an incident to give protection to those working."

"I have tried to make our station an area where if there was a major incident, we would be able to supply meals for over 100 people. Over the years I have purchased equipment that I think would be required should the

Continued page 7

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The next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News is due out on March 2



## Letters to the Editor

### Change the System

In response to Max Shierlaw’s article in the Hutt News January 30 2018 - “change the system”

The United Nations Local Agenda 21 Program is what is wrong with the current residential district councils plan here in Lower Hutt. If you have heard the phrase “sustainable development”, you have heard of Agenda 21. Sustainable Develop-

ment is used in order to “quietly” implement these policies, while lulling the citizen into a false sense of security.

These policies are designed to steal our private property rights while undermining our constitution, system of government, and national sovereignty. These are the same plans for every local government around the country, and the globe, that are being promoted by a non-governmental organisation known as ICLIE- The International Council for Local Environ-

mental Initiatives.

The adoption of some foreign non - governmental rules and regulations which influences our local councils in decision making processes to develop policies that we the people had nothing to do with is a danger to us all.

Our local representatives may not be aware of the threat that Agenda 21 Sustainable Development represents to our local communities and families which

is why it is our duty and responsibility as free, sovereign individuals to question authority and hold our representatives accountable for their actions.

“Without debate and without criticism no administration and no country can succeed” - JFK

Reuben Moeahu  
Lower Hutt

### EDITORIAL

## Charter Schools – leave them alone

It has been reported that Education Minister Chris Hipkins is considering closing the eleven charter schools by the end of the year. The question which arises is *why?*

The schools were opened by the National-led Coalition Government, which was in power until late last year. One of their coalition partners was the

ACT Party and the push for charter schools came from that source.

It is true that charter schools are controversial for various reasons. Whatever is the case overseas, at least the ones in NZ are mostly staffed by registered teachers, teach most of the curriculum and are inspected by the Education Review Office (ERO). It would seem

that they are performing well educationally. Also, some diversity of educational options is healthy, surely.

Many people have a stake in these schools, the staff, the students and the parents – their future – and rights - need to be considered.

If these schools are closed down for reasons of political dogma, that is not good enough; the only reason for

closure being considered should be educational – that the students are not receiving an adequate education or they are at risk in some way. Anyway, the limited time in operation of the schools in no way counts as an adequate trial time.

Mr Hipkins, leave the fledgling charter schools alone.

Rolland McKellar

### ADELPHOS

How radical should a Christian be? And how do we define radical? Some radical religious leaders condoned and took part in genocidal wars. The Crusaders wore embroidered crosses as Christians and Muslims slaughtered each other for centuries in the name of their God. Whereas ordinary Christian people like Mother Theresa and John Wesley were radical in their self-sacrificing love toward others. Theresa from Calcutta, India focused on training thousands to care and comfort dying people from the untouchable poor and destitute caste before they died. Wesley

## A shot of radical love

in England focused on equipping Christian men and women to be lay preachers—to offer eternal life to people after they died. They were just ordinary Christian people infused with a radical shot of love.

After his conversion in the late 1970s many of Bob Dylan’s fans were upset that the king of counter-culture was going radically “religious.” His personal encounter with the living Jesus led him to write numerous songs about his faith. His song *Shot of Love* was about that encounter with God’s love.

*Don’t need a shot of parish*

*to kill my disease. Don’t need a shot of turpentine to bring me to my knees. Don’t need a shot of codeine to help me repent. Don’t need a shot of whiskey, help me be president. I need a shot of love. I need a shot of love.*

In these lyrics Dylan didn’t see church attendance or “parish” as the primary way to meet his spiritual needs. Alcohol and drugs seemed meaningless after his personal shot of love from Jesus. His love shot was realising that life had something more to offer, and Jesus became as real as rain falling on his face. With a Jewish background he didn’t

first believe in Jesus because of a bunch of bible verses—his three month bible study course came later. It was his personal encounter with the living Jesus. It was a shot of Jesus’ radical love that opened his eyes and heart to God.

We end with the first two questions: How radical should an ordinary Christian be and how do we define radical? Maybe the answers to both is to examine another question: how radical were the claims of Christ? (Check out those claims online in the last Adelpnos issue—*The Claims of Christ.*)

Adelpnos

## OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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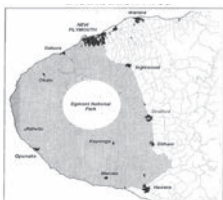
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## More Opunake & Coastal News’ out there

We have printed more copies of the Opunake & Coastal News.

Copies of the paper are now also available on stands at the following places:

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The Health Shop on the ground floor at Centre City.

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At the North Taranaki Community House Trust, 67 McLean Street.

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# Police car rammed in Opunake

There was an incident on Friday 2 February which ended in Opunake with a stolen red Hilux utility being towed away from the north end of Opunake Beach after a police car was extensively damaged in the right wheel area after being allegedly rammed by the driver of the red vehicle. The damaged police car was just metres away from the red Ute. Fragments of red paint could be seen on the damaged part of the police car.

The incident allegedly began in the Okato area just before 9am when the red Ute was seen being driven in an erratic manner, including being on the wrong side of the road at times. The car was allegedly stolen by the occupant of the car. After the police were notified a chase occurred with the driver ending up at Opunake Beach (at the bottom of the steps) where he allegedly took off on foot towards the coastal rocky area. There



Sergeant Andrew Ross (right) watching the coastal area where the man escaped to. At left are Canadian tourists Dustin Appleton and Ashleigh Ball

was a considerable police presence at Opunake beach and also in the vicinity of the scenic lookout just north

of Opunake Beach, where a helicopter and an ambulance could be seen. A manned police car blocked access

to the road to the scenic lookout.

Sgt Andrew Ross was in charge of the situation, we

understand.

Eventually the saga ended when the man surrendered without further incident to police just before 1pm and was taken into custody. The man is facing charges of car conversion and burglary.

The incident attracted a lot

of interest with some people taking photographs and looking through binoculars. Watching was Ashleigh Ball and Dustin Appleton from Canada. "It's pretty exciting. We thought Opunake was just a sleepy little town," They added, "We hope everyone is okay."



The damaged police car.



Several hours later where the group were standing looked like this as the king tide swept over the road.



A few braved the elements.



## It was all happening at Opunake Beach

It was hard to know what was the more newsworthy on Friday as two dramas unfolded within a short time of each other.

Opunake Beach swarmed with police in the morning

when one of their vehicles was rammed by a young man in a stolen car. The man who then took off on foot round the coast was eventually caught around the time a huge king tide peaked at midday.

The bemused police officers however took it all in their stride as the huge seas broke over the sandbanks leaving a trail of debris in its wake.

"It's the biggest tide I've ever seen," said Karol Butler

who has lived most of her life in Opunake.

See Constable Brophy's report in the Cops Column on page 6.



ABOVE AND AT LEFT: The king tide at its peak flooding the car park and road at the southern end of Opunake Beach. It was a sight to behold.



# Where to for Middletons Bay?

The increasing popularity of Middleton's Bay has brought with it new challenges. The future of Opunake's other beach came under the spotlight when the Egmont Plains Community Board held their first meeting of the year at CoastalCare on January 31.

"It could be made into a really pristine beach if everything is done properly," says former Egmont Plains community board member Ron Brewer. "There are even people swimming there now. It's a great opportunity to give the place a real uplift. It could be extended out with really good parking all along."

He said he would like to see better and easier access ways developed so people could reach the beach.

He said he welcomed news that the South Taranaki District Council is planning to do something about the rock wall, but more needed to be done, and there were rocks available to do this.

Concerns were also expressed at the future of the



Middleton's Bay, Opunake

road leading to the boat ramp. Community Board member Brian Vincent said a lot of work needed to be done.

"It's only a matter of time before the road is under-

mined, and I do believe it should be seriously looked at, otherwise you will lose that entire area."

Also at the meeting were members of the Opunake

Boat and Underwater Club who said that the Bay was increasingly busy. Their fishing competition which was running at the time was proving a popular draw card, and they

were hoping to extend their club rooms there.

Middleton's Bay along with the Opunake Lake had drawn increasing numbers to Opunake. It was noted that the

night before the Opunake Beach Carnival there were 21 freedom campers camped above Middleton's Bay and 17 at the lake. Boat and Underwater Club members said the influx of freedom campers had brought in people who were spending locally.

However, there was still a need for more facilities to accommodate them, as there were constant queues outside the nearly 20 year-old Middleton's Bay toilet building.

Community Board members continued to discuss the influx of freedom campers coming to coastal Taranaki after the open forum part of the meeting had finished.

"There's definitely a more positive response to freedom campers this year," Egmont Plains Community Board chairman Craig Dingle said.

It is understood plans are being made for the Taranaki Regional and South Taranaki District councils and beach users to meet to discuss the future of Middleton's Bay.

## New Zealand's wetlands at risk

A new report shows New Zealand is continuing to lose its precious wetlands and Conservation Minister Eugenie Sage says it will take years to turn the trend around.

The Minister released the eighth national report under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance to mark World Wetlands Day on February 2..

"It will take a concerted and serious effort and years to change this trend. Our wetlands are the land's kidneys capturing sediments and nutrients and slowly releasing water in drought prone areas. They are home to precious wildlife and plants and are wonderful places for people to experience nature," Ms Sage said.

"In New Zealand, we have lost 90% of our natural wetlands. Large areas of Canterbury, Manawatu, Waikato and the Bay of Plenty historically had extensive freshwater wetlands. In Southland more than 1000 ha of wetland has been lost since 2007."

"We must protect the last

10%."

Wetlands support a diverse range of ecosystems and species, including Kahikatea swamp forest, mangroves, migratory shorebirds, tuna/eel and whitebait, coastal lagoons, and alpine tarns.

Rare and threatened species that rely on New Zealand's remaining wetlands include the Australasian Bittern/matuku, Canterbury mudfish (our most threatened mudfish species) and *Corybas carsei* (Swamp helmet orchid) – which now has only one population remaining, at the Whangamarino Wetlands near Te Kauwhata in northern Waikato.

"There are instances of

great wetlands management and restoration activities carried out by the Department of Conservation, local authorities, community and non-governmental groups, iwi, Fish & Game, private landowners, and commercial partners.

"But we need to do much more. I want to see more Ramsar sites, and DOC is investigating options. There needs to be more replanting of wetlands and better use of the Resource Management Act to ensure they are considered when intensive developments and agricultural expansions are being considered.

"These unique areas are too

important for New Zealand's native wildlife and plants to lose. The Government will do more and continue to support for communities working hard to achieve long-term wetland conservation," says Ms Sage.

World Wetlands Day on February 2 celebrated the establishment of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, an international environmental agreement to recognise wetlands of international importance and encourage the wise management of all wetlands.

The Ramsar Convention which was established in 1971 includes 169 countries.

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# Preparing for eternity

Some people may have places booked for them in the Opunake Cemetery that they don't even know about. In some cases these spaces may have been booked up to 60 years ago, says South Taranaki District Council community facilities manager Phil Waite.

"Families might have booked two or three plots so they can be buried close by, but circumstances change, and some families might not even realise these plots are available."

The South Taranaki District Council which looks after nine cemeteries including Opunake is looking at what land maybe needed in future. Although there is no urgent need for expansion, planning ahead it's something the Council wants to start doing earlier than later.

"The Council is required by law to provide cemeteries, so we have to make sure there is enough land for future cemetery requirements," Phil



Some pre-booked plots at Opunake Cemetery may no longer be needed.

says. "There's plenty of land but it may not all be ready to be used for cemeteries. It may have stock grazing on it at the moment."

As well as possibly looking at land which the council owns near to cemeteries which is currently being leased, they will also be looking at any pre-booked plots which may no longer be needed.

Phil says they would probably look to start with the plots which had been booked earliest.

"We will see if the families are still around and see if they still want these plots. We are still going through the process of looking at who they are. If there's a local historian in Opunake, maybe they might be able to help us."

As well as Opunake, the Council is also looking at the Hawera and Patea cemeteries.

## Some new visitors at the Opunake Lake

Silting has led to some surprising results at the Opunake lake, it was revealed at the Egmont Plains Community Board meeting on January 31.

Locally known as the guardian of the lake, Rex Langton told the meeting that recent silting of the lake had brought some surprising results.

"It's fantastic for wading birds," he said.

South Taranaki district councillor Bonita Bigham said the council had earlier decided to stop doing remedial work at the lake as it wanted the lake to "do its own thing."

What Rex had said about wildlife returning to the lake had appeared to vindicate that decision, she said.

Rex has received a citizen's

award for his work in maintaining the Opunake walkway which has included spraying weeds around the lake, and he was at the meeting to ask for assistance from the South Taranaki District Council in doing this.

After the open forum part of the meeting had finished, South Taranaki District Council South Taranaki

community development advisor Glenn Hansen told the meeting he had just spoken to Rex who said he wanted to speak to a spraying contractor before any work was done as the lakeside was home to native butterflies and plants which didn't grow anywhere else.

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## Equal pay for rural women

Women working in the rural sector need to be included in the discussions of the reconvened Joint Working Group on Pay Equity Principles says Rural Women New Zealand.

"Rural Women New Zealand (RWNZ) welcomes the news that the government is keeping its promise to reduce the gender pay gap, and we hope that by reconvening work on this, they include women in the rural sector," says Board Chair, Penny Mudford.

"The rural sector is male-dominated, there is no doubt that, and our rural women have been working alongside and amongst men as partners for a long time, however for little or no financial reward.

"There are many factors affecting salaries and wages of rural women, some which are particular to our farming women, particularly when they are also the primary caregiver.

"RWNZ urges the Joint

Working Group to consider principles which will reduce the gender pay gap in our farming sector," says Ms Mudford.

**Our next issue is due out March 2. Phone us on 06 761 7016 if you want to be in it.**

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## OPUNAKE FIRE SERVICE

## Two unusual callouts for fire brigade

We would once again like to thank you all for taking it easy on the roads and for keeping your hands off the matches. It sure makes our life easier. The only two call outs we have had over the past couple of weeks have both been unusual, and I can't remember any that have been similar.

Firstly, we were put on stand – by at the fire station

on Friday February 2, just in case we were required to help the Police at an incident they were dealing with. A person they were trying to apprehend had done a runner and then became stuck on a ledge up the cliff between the main beach and the old wharf. Someone at fire control in Wellington thought we may be able to help out with abseiling

equipment so pushed the big red button. Fortunately, we are not trained in this area ( who would really want to climb down a cliff to harness up a wanted criminal?), and as the Urban Rescue Team from New Plymouth are, it was decided to bring them down to deal with the situation. Eventually, the assailant cooperated and was hauled to the top where he

was greeted by a welcoming party of police personal.

In the second incident, we were called to Middleton's Bay on Saturday 10th to assist a diver who was suffering with a medical issue. The crew from his boat managed to drag him on board, and then did a great job in getting him to shore as quickly as possible. We rendered as-

sistance until the ambulance crew took over, and then we went to set up a landing zone for the rescue helicopter on the green belt on Halse Place. When the chopper arrived however, they took a chance and landed down in the bay, leaving us high and dry up the top. As we had done all we could, we headed for the station to restock our medical bag and ready the equip-

ment for future calls.

Correction. The photo in our column in the last edition was of a burning four wheeler motor bike and not a rubbish fire as was stated.

Our brigade is selling dry pine fire wood so if you require any, call Beau 761 7242.

Secretary Beau

## OPUNAKE COPS

## Tony says goodbye and thanks

Hi Opunake, Another busy few weeks for us all here, as summer and the New Year period are in full swing.

Over the Christmas New Year period we have dealt with a large number of incidents of domestic violence and assaults in the village with two local people being arrested and currently before the courts with the likely outcome affecting their current employment as a result.

It has also been reported during the New Year celebrations that a large fight occurred outside the Ambulance depot causing concerns for our volunteer ambulance officers who were about to attend an incident but were unable to because of this idiotic behaviour.

One victim of this fight received a large laceration to his head after being assaulted by a known male using what is believed to be a metal



Tony Willetts

knuckle duster. Inquiries are continuing in regards to this matter.

As we continue to see people

in breach of the graduated licences and flouting the traffic laws, take this as a warning. In the coming weeks and months police teams from around Taranaki including the Opunake staff will be conducting a number of operations in and around our township. They will be watching for intersections and those not wearing seatbelts or distracted by using cellphones.

Lastly I would like to confirm that I have moved to

New Plymouth for a couple of new work opportunities, but I wanted to say thank you to the community for embracing both my family and myself.

Thanks to the fire brigade and ambos who I worked with a fair bit over the last couple of years. You guys run a good ship and Opunake is very lucky to have such a capable group of guys and girls.

Opunake is a pretty special place and you haven't

gotten rid of me yet, I'll be heading down the coast plenty to enjoy all that Opunake has to offer, so I'll be seeing you all around.

I'll leave you in the capable hands of my colleagues and I'm sure my replacement will be here before you know it.

So thank you, have a good 2018 and stay safe.

Cheers

Tony Willetts

## One man crime wave brought to book

On February 2 a male was arrested as a result of a pursuit through the town culminating in a police vehicle being rammed and numerous police converging on the town along with the rescue

helicopter. This offender was responsible for stealing a car and utility from New Plymouth and Mimi respectfully during the early hours of the morning.

He was located by police entering Opunake after receiving numerous complaints he was driving dangerously along Surf Highway 45 towards Opunake where the pursuit began. The manner of his driving was such that police elected to abandon the pursuit for public safety.

With help from numerous supportive locals he was located attempting to hide the stolen utility after reversing up the end of the goat track at the end of the Opunake Beach. At this stage he had rammed one of our local patrol vehicles before running off along the beach.

He had decided the best way to evade police was to climb up the cliff with the incoming king tide lapping at the foot of the cliff below. Alas this proved unfruitful.

He was subsequently



CONSTABLE KYLIE BROPHY

arrested after a standoff with police and rescue staff. He has been remanded in custody awaiting his next court appearance.

As a result of this matter he is now facing numerous assault, theft, and driving charges. We would like to thank those locals involved in locating this one man crime wave.

As most would be aware our local "Ninja Warrior" Constable Tony Willetts

has left the building. He has moved to greater pastures – apparently to take up some work opportunities in the big smoke. Congratulations to Tony and we wish he and his young family the best of luck for their future, whatever it may bring.

Management have confirmed a likely replacement for Tony will be welcomed into the community in the

coming months.

That's about it from us, stay safe and look after each other out there.

Please remember, all information provided will be treated as anonymous unless requested otherwise and alternatively you can call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Kylie Brophy.

  
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# A show of solidarity



Before. Phil Cram and Bev Davy at Sandfords

Last week Bev Davy of Auroa lost her hair for a good cause. In a show of solidarity with Bev, Auroa dairy farmer Phil Cram had decided that any sponsorship money he raised from taking part in the Tour Aotearoa bike ride would go towards breast cancer.

It is something with which Bev is all too familiar, having had the disease two years ago.

In a show of solidarity with Phil, Bev decided she would have her hair shaved off if anybody was prepared to donate \$500 to the cause. Sandfords came to the party as did two others. "I suppose I need to have my hair off three times then," said Bev when she turned up at Sandfords in Auroa to have Phil Cram shave her hair off. Then, when this was done, she turned the tables and had a go at Phil's hair herself.



During the cut.

Two days later, Phil was heading north to take part in Tour Aotearoa. On Monday he and his Surly ECR touring bike would be with around 600 others from New Zealand and overseas to start the bike ride from

Cape Reinga to Bluff. He estimates the trip will take 25-26 days, "give or take." It is something he had always wanted to do. A keen mountain biker, he has done 1500 km worth of training in the last three months.



And after.

It is a self supported ride, although many riders taking part choose to do it for a charity. For Phil, nominating breast cancer as his charity seemed to be a logical choice. "It seemed like a good idea

as Bev has been through that scenario," he said. After having lost her hair, Bev seemed happy enough with the end product. "I might choose to have it like this all the time," she said.

## An honour for Beau

*Continued from page 1*

need arise. We use this equipment on a regular basis for our functions, and on training days, so it isn't sitting around waiting for something horrific to happen."

"When the Act was passed in Parliament that allowed the Fire Service stations to have a canteen, I was the first around to do the paperwork and apply for a canteen licence. Many other brigades borrowed my application and sent a similar one in."

"Our brigade has hosted the New Zealand Fire Service National Basketball tournament on two occasions and I am proud to say, they have been wonderful events. The last one we held, I took it on myself to do the organisation. When I see children playing about with a basketball at school, I often tell them that I was runner up to a New Zealand title in basketball. They usually look very disappointed when I say it was in the fire service social grade."

He has been secretary for over a third of the brigade's entire life and says he feels a responsibility in preserving the brigade's history. "I have recently had many

of the brigade member photos reprinted, and hung them in similar frames in the social room. I have framed photos which I thought were of interest, such as our fire appliance beside two St John vehicles outside their building in about 1960. Another thing I have framed is our brigade petrol ration voucher that had to be used when fuel was in short supply. Soon I would like to make a cabinet so we can display memorabilia such as the old brass fire-fighting gear that was once used. These pieces of equipment look really good when polished and are crying out

to be put out so everyone can see them.

"I would like to thank the wonderful people in and around Opunake for the help and assistance they have given to the brigade over the years. From the donations of sheep and other meats for a

hangi, the use of equipment such as diggers, tractors, trailers, and chainsaws, cooking and baking, bobby and casualty calf supporters schemes, financial and even liquid refreshments. Each and every one of you is appreciated."



Phil Cram is biking from one end of New Zealand to the other to fundraise for breast cancer.

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# New Zealand MPs advance a peaceful, secure, and prosperous Asia-Pacific region

Released by permission of the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives New Plymouth MP Jonathan Young has been leading the New Zealand delegation to the 26<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) in Hanoi, Vietnam. The APPF brings together parliamentarians from 27 countries in the Asia Pacific region annually to address political, security, economic, and social issues. The agenda works to promote the expansion of trade and investment, sound and sustainable environmental practices, and the advancement



**JONATHAN YOUNG MP  
FOR NEW PLYMOUTH**

of freedom and democracy. Through the exchange of experiences and the building of networks, the APPF aims to provide parliamentarians on

both sides of the Pacific with the knowledge and strategies to build more peaceful and stable societies for all. The Speaker of the New Zealand Parliament, Rt Hon Trevor Mallard, said "This is a significant Forum, as the APPF will be marking its 25th Anniversary and revitalising its commitment to the shared goals of promoting dialogue and cooperation for peace, stability, prosperity in the region. The Asia Pacific region is dynamic and we face shared challenges. The APPF contributes to matters of regional importance by

developing and advancing a parliamentary agenda that supports the work of APEC, and I am pleased that New Zealand will be well represented at this milestone Forum."

Jonathan Young says it's a privilege to represent the region and the country, and to share experiences with a range of international parliamentarians. He says he's looking forward to making new contacts and believes the exchange of ideas will be of benefit to all involved.

This year's Forum has an over-arching theme of Par-

liamentary partnership for Peace, Innovation and Sustainable Development, with each New Zealand delegate delivering speeches and considering draft resolutions over the course of the Forum on topics such as the empowerment of women and girls, security and conflict prevention, regional economic integration and the consolidation of multilateral trade systems, climate protection and food security, and regional cultural and tourism cooperation. New Zealand will also be supporting a proposal to enhance the voice of

women Parliamentarians in the Forum.

Following the APPF the delegation visited the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea to learn about recent parliamentary developments and build an understanding of the opportunities for shared trade and economic development, science and innovation, and enhanced people-to-people links. The delegation was in Hanoi on January 17-22 and Seoul on January 22-24.

*Jonathan Young MP for New Plymouth*

## Cross-party group response to natural disasters and emergencies

Civil Defence Minister Kris Faafoi has met with representatives from across Parliament to discuss the Government response to the report into how New Zealand responds to natural disasters and emergencies.

The Ministerial Review - 'Better Responses to Natural Disasters and other Emergencies in New Zealand' was started by the previous Government and Minister Gerry Brownlee last year and had cross-party support. A technical advisory

group (TAG) was formed to provide advice on the most appropriate operational and legislative mechanisms to support effective responses to natural disasters and other emergencies.

Mr Faafoi says he aims to continue the cross-party approach to Civil Defence because he believes political consensus is needed in order for all New Zealanders to have the best emergency response system possible.

"Effective emergency

management is part of a government's fundamental responsibility to protect the community. It is important for New Zealand's social, built, natural and economic environments as well as our cultural wellbeing. Given all of that, I felt that to continue to work collaboratively with all parties provides the best opportunity for us to keep New Zealanders as safe as possible."

The report from the TAG makes a number of recommendations and Mr Faafoi

is also meeting with local government, the emergency and civil defence sector, iwi and other groups over the next few months.

"Despite the fact that the system stands up well when it needs to, we are aware from recent events that there are improvements we can make and it is time to make them.

"I am planning to hear from as many stakeholders as possible because I know there is a real depth of experience and commitment in the civil defence sector, as well

as first-hand experience of having managed through an emergency response. With my colleagues including Hon Nanaia Mahuta, Minister for Local Government and Minister for Maori Development, I will be engaging widely on this with the aim of making sound decisions and putting our civil defence system into its best footing for the future.

"Given New Zealand's unique threat from natural disasters, we need to pull together and ensure we get this right."

The cross-party TAG reference group will meet again later this year before Mr Faafoi confirms recommendations on the TAG report later in 2018.

The Technical Advisory Group was set up following the Kaikoura earthquakes and the Port Hills fires emergency, in February 2017 to review the current response framework.

## Coastal policy statement affects decision making

New Zealand's major surf breaks and the impacts of vehicles on beaches are receiving more attention from local authorities because of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement

2010 (NZCPS), new analysis released by Conservation Minister Eugenie Sage shows.

"Surfers can be grateful that protecting surf breaks is now something that councils consider in preparing

plans and when resource consents are sought for development work such as dredging," Ms Sage said. Under the Resource Management Act, the NZCPS guides local authority management

of the coastal environment, and council and Environment Court decision making under the RMA. The Department of Conservation's review of the NZCPS looked at how it has influenced deci-

sion making under the Act. The review identified the need for guidance to support the coastal hazard policies in the NZCPS. "This guidance has now been completed and along

with the recently updated MFE guidance on coastal hazards and climate change will assist councils plan

*Continued on page 9*

**JONATHAN YOUNG**  
MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

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Continued from previous page.

# Coastal policy statement affects decision making

for storm events such as that experienced this week. "I am pleased to see the NZCPS is making a difference and helping local authorities make better decisions and take a more strategic and integrated approach to coastal planning. There's still a long way to go. "The review also found while some local authorities have embraced the NZCPS and made good progress, others had work to do."

Among other findings, councils who resource and implement a strategic and integrated approach to managing their coastal areas are making better progress in using the NZCPS to achieve good coastal management. A lack of accepted and consistent methods has been a problem in mapping and risk assessment relating to natural character and outstanding natural landscapes. Consistent ways of working

and further implementation guidance are still needed for councils. The views among sector groups on the implications of the Supreme Court's 2014 King Salmon decision for resource management planning and decision making are strongly divided. "As Conservation Minister I am particularly interested in looking at ways DOC can support councils in implementing the NZCPS, for example with coastal map-

ping information and by promoting better co-ordination of coastal management with urban development and freshwater management. "These are important issues for a coastal country like New Zealand. I want to thank everyone who contributed to the review." The review of the NZCPS was initiated by DOC in 2016 to fulfil its monitoring responsibilities for the NZCPS in 2016 and was completed

last year. It completes the first stage of monitoring the policy and points to the further monitoring work that is needed to provide a national perspective on coastal management trends. The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 was prepared under the RMA and is a key instrument for central government to influence local government's implementation of the RMA

in the coastal environment. It states policies to achieve the RMA's purpose of promoting sustainable management on a range of issues including preservation of natural character, coastal subdivision, use and development, and coastal hazard risks. It is the only mandatory policy statement under the RMA. Regional policy statements, regional plans and district plans must give effect to it.

# Universalism - an expensive change in thinking

A sharp ideological difference between National and Labour is the extent to which the Government targets welfare. While National focused on 'social investment' to tightly control spending, Labour's approach to social spending is markedly different.

In December, the Government made a subtle, but expensive change to one of its headline policies. The Winter Energy Payment policy initiative, which makes a series of payments to those on benefits or superannuation was changed to be 'opt-out' rather than 'opt-in'.

Structuring the scheme as 'opt-in' meant that, according to Labour, approximately 80% of those eligible could be expected to apply for the payments, in line with uptake of the independent earner tax credit.

That was a good way to structure the policy. Households that required the payments have a good



Joe Ascroft

incentive to apply, while those who viewed their time as more worthwhile than an extra \$700 a year (think property investors, rich-listers, and retired CEOs) wouldn't bother applying for the payments. The effect is a comparatively targeted policy, providing payments to those who needed them, and reducing the burden on the taxpayer by not handing out money to those who didn't need it.

However, the policy was re-structured to be 'opt-out'. The impact is that everyone

receiving superannuation will receive the winter payments, even if they otherwise wouldn't have applied. Millionaire retirees, who wouldn't have even thought about spending time applying to the Government for \$700, are now having their Waiheke weekends subsidised.

The cost of this subtle change is nearly \$70 million a year.

It's more evidence of Labour adopting a philosophy of universalism: benefits and social spending are handed to everyone and paid for with high taxes.

There are plenty of examples of a movement towards universalism in the new Government's thinking.

The 'fees free' policy for tertiary education hands out thousands of dollars to anyone seeking higher education for the first time, not just those who struggle to pay. Students from wealthy backgrounds will be receiving thousands

of dollars more in subsidies starting this year funded, in bulk, by those less able to afford it.

The Government's Best Start scheme will pay new parents \$60 a week for a year after they have a child, irrespective of their household income. That's over \$3000 a year to everyone that has kids, even if the parents are high-powered lawyers or doctors.

Supporters of universalism often claim the costs of distributing social spending to everyone can just be recouped via progressive taxation. This misses how the burden of taxation shapes behavior and the economy.

When people face higher taxes, they're likely to work fewer hours and put in less work towards a pay rise or a promotion. When businesses face higher taxes, they make fewer investments and expand more slowly. A high-tax economy undermines the economic activity we need

to fund social spending, and puts the brakes on economic growth that would lift incomes over time.

It's not an attack on social spending to say that Government programmes should be well targeted at those who most need assistance. Rather, most would agree that turning every household into welfare

recipients is unnecessary. When handouts come at a cost to higher economic growth and higher incomes, we should be deeply skeptical.

Joe Ascroft  
Economist  
New Zealand Taxpayers' Union

# On this month in history Nelson Mandela released from prison

On February 11, 1990 Nelson Mandela was finally released from prison having served 27 years of a life sentence. He was convicted of terrorism with respect to the sabotage of a railway line. No one, however, lost their lives. He was born in 1918 the son of a chief. His father died when he was nine and he was brought up in the home of another chief.

He shifted to Johannesburg and became an activist joining the African National Congress (ANC), who sought equality for indigenous people through strikes, protests and boycotts. After the Sharpeville massacre, where unarmed protesters were shot dead by police, the ANC was banned and decided to resort to sabotage - but not

violence. Nelson Mandela was elected president of South Africa in 1994, after the end of apartheid - serving until 1999. He

is widely considered one of the outstanding leaders of his time and his death led to worldwide mourning.

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# Aimee and Dylan are student leaders at OHS

Opunake High School has chosen Dylan Coleman and Aimee Abplanalp as student leaders for 2018. "I was quite surprised (to be chosen), as there was very worthy competition. I was stoked and very excited," comments Dylan.

"I feel very honoured. It's what I've always wanted to be," says Aimee.

Dylan is keen to help relationships between the students and between the students and staff," he explains. "A sense of unity in important - cohesiveness,"



Aimee Abplanalp and Dylan Coleman

he adds.

Aimee hopes to promote

the transition to high school for new students. "The tran-

sition can be quite intimidating," she claims. She considers peer support has an important part to play and she will support this process.

This year Dylan is studying biology, physics, chemistry, calculus and english. Although english is his favourite subject he says, "I also enjoy all the sciences." He is also a member of SADD (Students Against Dangerous Driving) and is on the Student Council.

Aimee is studying biology, statistics, history, geography, as well as her co-favou-

rites chemistry and english.

Both students joke that they don't expect too much free time to pursue their interests, nevertheless Dylan will find some time for writing, especially poetry. Wilfred Owen is a poet he admires. Dylan has also played competitive soccer for five years or so.

In her spare time Aimee enjoys reading, with modern reading her special interest, although she also likes learning about history and books she can learn from. She is a pianist and has passed exams up to Level 4. Classical mu-

sic is her preference.

As to the future, Dylan is weighing up different options; he could study veterinary science at Massey University, or study to be a medical practitioner (B Med and M. Surgery at Otago University).

Aimee intends to study law and commence at Victoria University, but is also interested in psychology.

We wish these high quality young students all the best in their leadership roles.

# The head students at CTS are Kiana and Madison

Coastal Taranaki School's Head Students are Madison Mitchell and Kiana Armstrong for 2018. Both are 16 but turn 17 later in the year.

Madison's main aim as leader is, "I want to bring the school together - get the juniors more involved with the seniors, so there is more collaboration between the two."

Kiana commented that her aim is, "Just to get everyone involved and excited and wanting to put in more effort - that would be cool."

As regards subjects stud-

ied, Madison is taking biology, chemistry, maths, physical education and her favourite - physics. Kiana is taking physics, design technology, English and her favourite maths (with emphasis on calculus).

For relaxation/interests Madison enjoys exercising such as hiking, time with her family and she is a swimming instructor. She has been a competitive swimmer with breaststroke her main strength.

Kiana enjoys time with her



From left, Kiana Armstrong and Madison Mitchell.

friends, playing online video games and she is in the senior girls soccer team.

Both young women are involved with SADD (Students Against Dangerous Driving).

Kiana and Madison have definite leadership abilities. Last year Kiana was Academic Captain, and Madison was Sports Captain, as well as Deputy Head Girl.

When she leaves school Madison plans university study so she can be a radiog-

rapher. "I'd like to live in different countries and this should give me a good head start," she comments.

Kiana intends to embark on a Bachelor of Engineering degree (B. Eng (hons)) with the intention of becoming an officer in the military.

All the best for your leadership roles this year - it is obvious that CTS have chosen two outstanding leaders for 2018.

# New teacher at Omata School is passionate about teaching

I am a first year teacher starting at Omata School, working with a year four and five class. I am passionate about learning and I want to spark that same passion within my students.

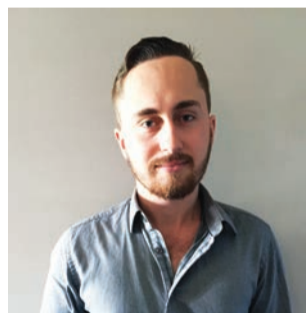
It is exciting for me to be back in Taranaki after spending four years in Hamilton and Cambridge studying a Bachelor of Teaching and a

Bachelor of Health, Sport, and Human Performance at Waikato University.

I grew up in Oakura attending Oakura Primary, so Taranaki is my home. What brought me back is the beautiful landscape, including our fantastic beaches and our stunning mountain. My interests include surfing and tramping, and Taranaki is

the perfect place to do both. It is a fantastic opportunity for me to be part of Omata School. Omata and the community has been very welcoming and supportive.

I am looking forward to furthering my own learning and gaining more experience within this fantastic school.



Sean Kelly who is a first year teacher at Omata School.

Sean Kelly



The Peter Snell statue received something extra earlier this month. Is it a javelin or a wind wand?

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## WELCOME 2018

Welcome to the 2018 school year, especially those who have recently joined the Opunake High School whanau. This year has started extremely well with a very warm welcoming powhiri for our new Year 9 students and staff. Its exciting to have a roll of 352.

### PREFECTS

Following a vigorous application and interview process, we are proud to present the following students as our 2018 Prefects.

**Back L-R:** Sarah Haden, Janis Baker, Keegan Grey, Daniel Potier, Jakob Whakatutu, Tane Jones, Willow Wright, Teina Ngaia. **Front L-R:** Jacob Symons, Katie Sinclair, Dylan Coleman (Head Boy), Aimee Abplanalp (Head Girl), Benjamin Shelford, Stevee-Jai Kelly. **Absent:** Danielle Bridson, Cameron Hasler



### NEW STAFF 2017

Its not uncommon for schools to welcome a number of new staff each year, however in 2018, we have just one full-time teacher climbing aboard our waka - Tryfan Ephraim - and two new teachers-aides - Ben Morgan and Amanda Colless - alongside Jade Smith and Baylie Bright who started with us in 2017. We are privileged to have you all.



Tryfan Ephraim

### TRYFAN EPHRAIM

My full name is Tryfan Wyn Ephraim. I have been in NZ for 20 years, teaching at Wainuiomata High School for the past 14 years. I was involved in setting up a really successful Trades Academy for at risk Maori / Pacifica boys. I was also involved helping run a morning mentoring program and Physical Training program called futures. I have taught Academic PE / Health, Mathematics, English, Art and Design and Technology. I have been self employed as a sculptor, founded and was president of a new network of multi use trails in Wainuiomata and ran a Mountain bike skills coaching business. I am a passionate surfer and body surfer and enjoy helping people maintain their well being. I love being outdoors, and am loving my return to Taranaki. Opunake High School rocks and Opunake is a paradise! :)



Ben Morgan Baylie Bright Jade Smith

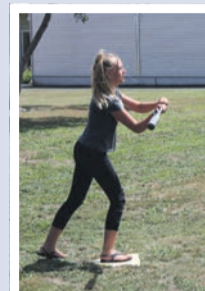
### TEACHER AIDES

At Opunake High School, we are blessed to have a diverse student body, however with some students come some learning challenges. In 2018, we are fortunate to have Ben Morgan, Baylie Bright, Amanda Colless and Jade Smith working with Jan Murgatroyd and the rest of her amazing team

## PHOTO GALLERY

### ORIENTATION WEEK

During the first days at school students have been involved in many activities as part of the orientation and DREAM Programmes.



## NCEA RESULTS

### PARTICIPATION

Pass rates of students eligible to sit NCEA -

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- Level 2 - 95%
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### ROLL BASED

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# Property market stays cool over hot summer

New Zealand property market in major centres stays cool over hot summer but regions are pumping

Real-time statistics from realestate.co.nz show that while the major centres in New Zealand continue to cool, there's lively activity across regional New Zealand.

Asking prices either fell, or remained stable in Auckland, Wellington, Canterbury, Waikato and Otago compared to the prior month.

"Total housing stock was up in these five main regions compared to the same time a year ago, indicating that many properties are not selling as quickly."

By contrast Northland, Central North Island, Bay of Plenty, Gisborne, Hawkes Bay, Wairarapa and Marlborough were a hive of activity in January, says realestate.co.nz spokesperson Vanessa Taylor.

"It's interesting that most of these regions are known holiday destinations, and it could well be that sellers in these locations are taking advantage of the visitor season and a sellers' market."

Asking prices were up and total stock numbers were down in all these regions, she says.

New listings were down in Northland, Central North Island, Bay of Plenty and Hawkes Bay, but up in Wairarapa and Marlborough.

Gisborne led the country with a 19.5% hike in asking prices compared to December, to reach an average of \$344,082. This was followed by the Wairarapa region which was up 10.3% and an average asking price of \$473,850.

Northland and Hawkes Bay are very similar in profile, with Northland's asking price up 8.6% to \$609,382

and Hawkes Bay up 8.2% to \$492,740.

Central North Island follows closely behind with average asking prices up 7.8% to \$434,951 compared to the previous month.

The Marlborough region, a popular holiday destination, is the only South Island region to reach "hot status" with a 6.4% increase in average asking prices to \$510,030.

"Central Otago-Lakes would be the other holiday destination you could assume would be on the list, but it painted a different picture," says Vanessa.

In Central Otago-Lakes, asking prices fell 10.6% compared to the previous month while total stock fell 5.1% when compared to the same period last year.

Tauranga has been recently described as the most unaffordable city in New Zealand to buy a new home (annual Demographia

International Housing Affordability Survey).

"However, it looks like Aucklanders are less interested with the region than they previously were," says Vanessa.

Real time data from realestate.co.nz shows that viewings of listings to the region from Aucklanders has fallen each January over the last three years (Jan 2016 - Jan 2018).

Despite this, Bay of Plenty asking prices continue to rise and are at an all-time high of \$637,281, a 1.6% increase on December 2017. Listings are also in scarce supply in the Bay of Plenty. The region registered a record low in new property listings compared with January 2017, with 466 new listings (down 12.6% on the previous year).

Vanessa Taylor says a less frenetic market in the main centres means purchasers have the time to take a more

considered approach.

"They can take more time to consider all options (such as whether to sell, buy or renovate) with less competitive pressure to purchase immediately."

"Buyers have more time to view all the options and negotiate without the pressure of a hot market," she says.

Asking prices fell in the Auckland region compared to the previous month (-4.0% to \$943,543). Falls were also registered in Christchurch (-2.1%) and Otago (1.3%). In the Waikato and Wellington region asking prices were relatively stable (+0.5%) in both centres.

Total stock was up in all five regions compared to the same month a year ago.

In Auckland total stock was up (+20.4%), followed by Waikato (+15.2%), Wellington (+14.0%), Canterbury (+13.8%) and Otago (+8.5%).

New property listings varied among the five regions, with the Otago region recording a 13.9% increase new property listings compared to the same month in the previous year, followed by Wellington (+7.4%), Canterbury (+1.1%). Falls were recorded in Auckland (-9.7%), and the Waikato (-8.6%).

Nationally, there were 7,491 new property listings across the country which is a 4.9% decrease on the same period last year.

However, total housing stock is up 7.0% compared to January 2017, which indicates that many properties are not selling as quickly as in previous years, says realestate.co.nz spokesperson Vanessa Taylor.

The average asking price across the country was \$647,535 which is a 2.0% fall compared to December 2017.

# New survey shows support for oil and gas industry

The Petroleum Exploration and Production Association of New Zealand (PEPANZ) has released its latest industry reputation survey, showing improved public

understanding of the oil and gas industry in New Zealand. "It's pleasing to see increasing understanding and that 60% of respondents have either a favourable

or neutral view of our industry, with less than a third having an unfavourable view. It shows that most New Zealanders sensibly recognise the important

role oil and gas plays in our economy and society," says PEPANZ CEO Cameron Madgwick.

The UMR survey of 1000 respondents was conducted in December 2017. Some of the key findings include respondents who knew 'a lot' or 'fair amount' about the industry was 29%, an 8% increase from March 2016. Forty seven per cent of respondents believe the New Zealand oil and gas industry is important to the economy. Twenty nine per cent reported a favourable opinion of the industry, 41% neutral and 32% unfavourable.

By far the biggest change

from the previous survey in March 2016 was a big increase in level of knowledge in Canterbury (37% - up from 16%).

"The survey shows only a minority of respondents have an unfavourable view of the industry."

"We are working hard to address legitimate concerns about climate change - a global challenge that requires a coordinate and planned approach."

"Natural gas is a clean, lower-emitting fuel that has a major role to play in reducing our net emissions by displacing less efficient fuels. Energy efficiency, new technologies and

carbon offsetting will also be important and PEPANZ has established a Net-Zero Emissions Committee to advance these issues.

"It's pleasing to see an overall increased level of knowledge about our industry, and this is especially the case in Canterbury. This is likely to reflect some of the attention last year around the potential of the Barque natural gas prospect near Oamaru."

"These results will help focus our efforts to communicate with the wider public on how our industry works and the challenges and opportunities ahead of us."



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# Batman to challenge for Australasian title

For his next fight James (Batman) Langton is moving back down to the cruiserweight division. It will be the Opunake boxer's first fight since he won the Pro-Box New Zealand heavyweight championship in December at the Hawera Rumble.

In 2015, James had won the New Zealand National Boxing Federation cruiserweight title in front of a home town crowd in Opunake only to lose it to Monty Betham in Auckland a few months later.

Now he hopes to lose 8kg before he takes on Matt Davoren for the Australasian cruiserweight title in Sydney on March 23.

After winning the New Zealand heavyweight title, he had been offered four possible fights.

"I looked at all the options on the table. This one was the hardest of the four, but it came with the biggest rewards," he said.

Davoren had a good record as an amateur before turning



pro a couple of years ago, James says. Since then he is undefeated and has won most of his fights by

knockout. James says although Davoren is not in the current world top hundred it's only

a matter of time before he makes it there. Nevertheless James sees possible weaknesses.

"He's a basher and probably weighs similar to me. He has fought in the heavyweight division as well.. He's a banger and probably still has a bit more to learn of the craft of boxing. In his amateur career he probably bashed everyone with his size and muscle. I will probably try to close the fight up to the middle range where there's always a danger of being knocked out, but also an opportunity to get a knockout."

With Davoren being a southpaw, James hopes his preparation will include sparring with left-handed boxer Robert Berridge who has previously fought for two world titles.

The last time James fought in Australia was when he lost to Mark Flanagan in Australia.

"I wasn't in the right head space," says James. "It was in the middle of calving and I

wasn't thinking positively. If there's one sport in the world you can't have negative thoughts it's boxing."

After losing this bout, James took some time out and went on to win the New Zealand heavyweight title.

"I'm back to believing I can go back to Australia and beat this guy," he says.

James says he had been told that if he won this fight there was a chance of an American fight, but the thing he is most looking forward to is defending his heavyweight title in front of a Taranaki home crowd.

"While we can't make any promises, it would be amazing to defend the title in Opunake," he says..

"In 150 years it would be the first time Opunake would have had a legitimate heavyweight championship fight, which would be a historic occasion."

In the meantime, James feels the issue of him not being included on the Sandfords Event centre honours board is still

outstanding. Despite having won two national boxing titles and fighting for two international titles it had been argued that he did not meet the criteria for inclusion as, in the opinion of the Event Centre Trust he had not represented New Zealand. James argues that in his upcoming fight for the Australasian title he required approval from the president of Pro Box New Zealand to be New Zealand's representative in the Trans Tasman bout, and therefore meets the Event Centre's criteria.

James says he has been overwhelmed by the huge show of support he has had for his upcoming Sydney bout.

"Not only are people getting in contact to wish me luck generally, but large numbers of people from Taranaki, around New Zealand and Australia have indicated they will make the trip to cheer me on which I am really grateful for."

## Climate activists to be prosecuted

Climate activists locked on oil supply ship threatened with "draconian" Anadarko Amendment

Police have warned climate activists currently locked onto an offshore oil exploration support ship in the Port of Taranaki that officials from the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) are travelling from Wellington to charge them under the 'Anadarko Amendment'.

The controversial 2013 Amendment to the Crown Minerals Act makes it an offence to interfere with oil exploration ships at sea, and was passed under

the National Government without public consultation or a Bill of Rights Act review. It was widely criticised by academics, Labour MPs, and activists alike, and seen as an attempt to stifle peaceful environmental protest against the oil industry.

Greenpeace climate campaigner, Amanda Larsson, calls the move "outrageous."

"This is the oil branch of the Government threatening to use the draconian anti-protest laws passed by the last National Government to stop peaceful protest against oil exploration," she says.

"It's outrageous that

under the new Labour-led Government, which has committed to bold climate leadership, the oil ministry would consider punishing climate activists using this anti-democratic law."

"It was bad enough that the previous National Government used these laws against climate activists, but the supposedly climate-friendly new Labour Government shouldn't be threatening climate activists with \$50,000 fines and 12 months in jail for protesting the oil industry."

At the time it was passed in 2013, Labour and the Greens strongly opposed the

law. Many prominent New Zealanders condemned the amendment, including Dame Anne Salmond and former Labour Prime Minister Rt Hon Geoffrey Palmer QC, and other lawyers including the late Sir Peter Williams QC.



Greenpeace campaigner Amanda Larsson

"With their commitment to climate action, the new Labour Government need to act now to reign in the Ministry of Oil, and more importantly, stop offshore exploration and drilling to fulfil our obligations to tackle climate change. We can't afford to burn most of the known fossil fuel reserves if we are to avoid catastrophic climate change - searching for more makes no sense," says Amanda Larsson.

"As well as stopping offshore oil exploration, the Ardern Government should repeal the Anadarko Amendment and protect the

right to peacefully protest in a democratic society.

"These activists have put their bodies on the line to protect our future and our children's future. If we are serious about tackling climate change, we need to urgently end oil exploration and stop pandering to the oil industry."

In April last year, Greenpeace activists, including Executive Director Dr Russel Norman, swam in front of the Amazon Warrior, 60 nautical miles off the Wairarapa coast, stopping it from seismic blasting for the day.

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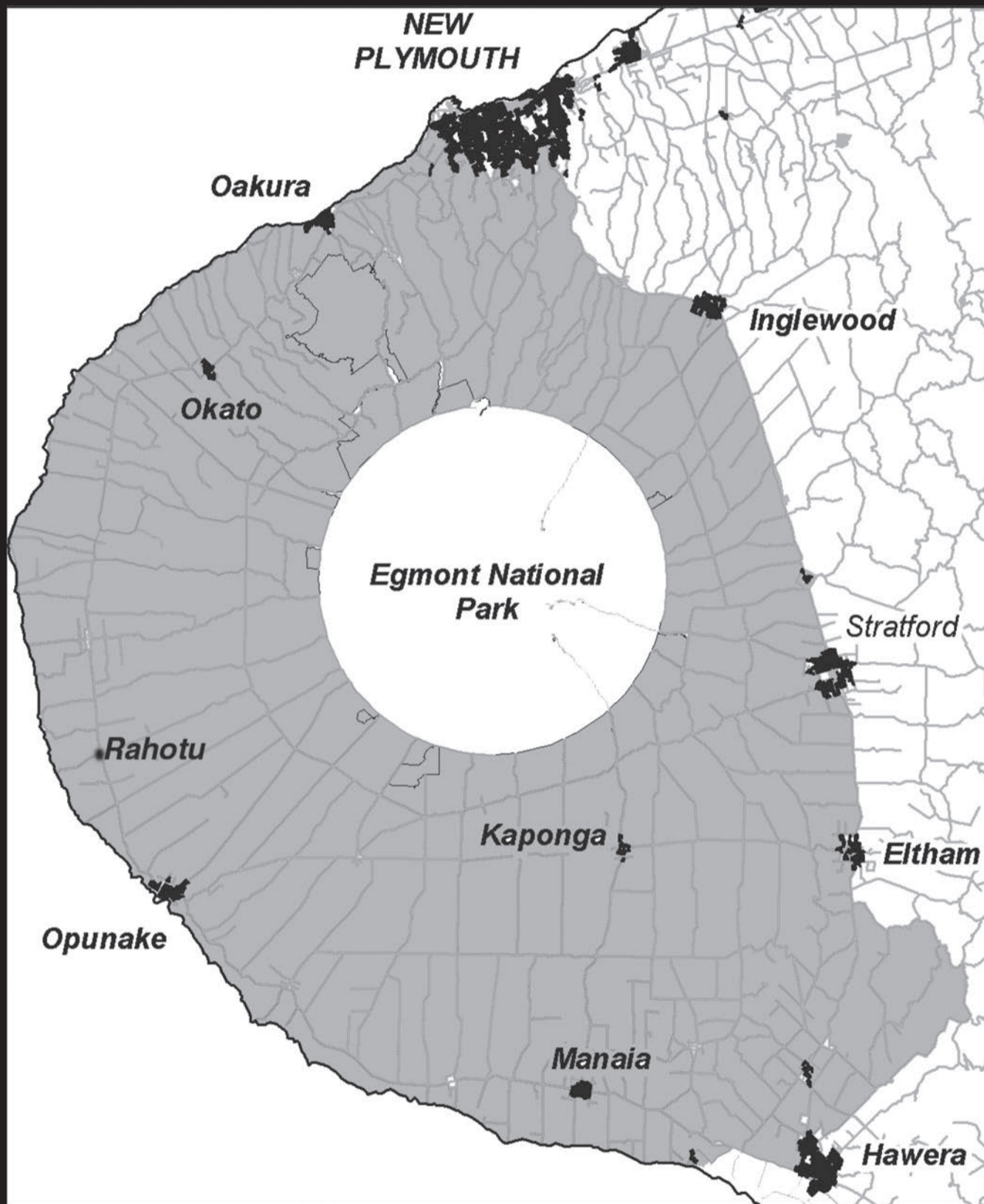
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# OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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# Tournament seeks to restore the links

Last week Coastal Taranaki farmers had a chance to swing a golf club and get away from worrying about the drought.

The Rural Razzle Farmers Golf Day teed off around 10.30am on February 9 at the Pungarehu Golf Club. With

the drought in full swing, Coastal Taranaki farmers were invited to get away from the farm for a day, talk to each other and enjoy some Ambrose golf.

The event was organised by the Rural Razzle, an initiative bringing together

the Rural Support Trust, Farm Source, Dairy NZ, Dairy Women's Network, Taranaki Young Farmers, MPI Rural Wellness and Sport Taranaki.

"A lot of farmers are worried about their stock. We've picked Pihama,

farmers so the conversation would more likely be about things other than problems on the farm.

Alan Crowley who farms nearby and is also club captain at the Pungarehu Golf Club said it was good to get everybody out to enjoy a

stress on relationships with a lot of "kerfuffle" about contract negotiations and worries about putting food on the table.

The drought also meant farmers had to use up winter feed and had trouble finding the money to pay for palm

that was being forecast for the following weekend coming from the northeast, she wasn't confident of coastal areas getting much of that.

The Rural Razzle had held their first event at a community get-together at

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Ready for some Ambrose golf.

Manaia and Opunake as the three areas worst hit by the drought," says Janet Fleming of Sport Taranaki who also farms at Pihama. "With the drought it's more critical to give farmers a free day, get them off the farms and think about something else."

To this end, teams had a mix of farmers and non-

fun day.

"It's been a tough year, and Mother Nature has controlled a heck of a lot of what's been happening. Everybody is in the same boat, so we have to look out for each other."

Marcia Paurini of the Taranaki Rural Support Trust said the drought is putting

kernel deliveries.

The drought was particularly bad in the area between Warea and Pihama, she said.

"When they have had 10ml, by the time you've added the heat to the land, it's all evaporated and you don't get anything."

With predictions of rain

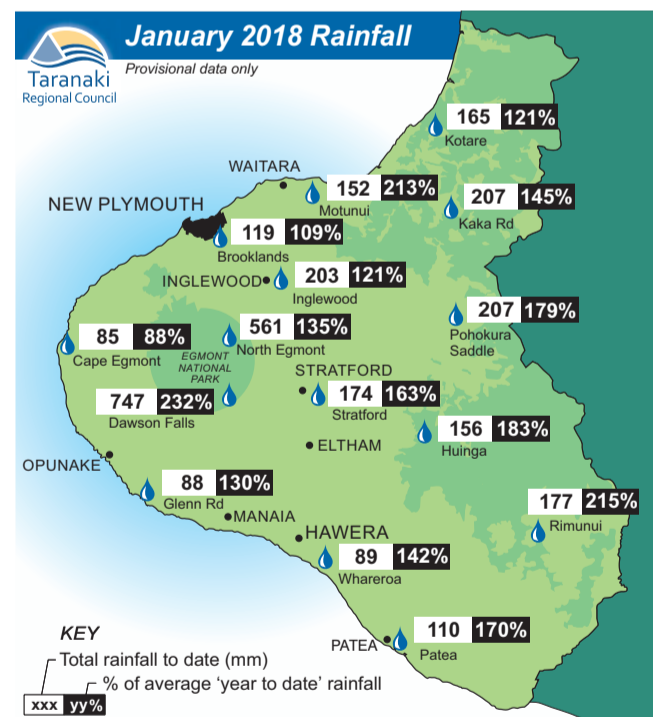
Pihama back in December, and the Pungarehu golf tournament was the first of three such events they were hoping to hold on the Taranaki coast.

"We just provide the vehicle and hope people jump on," Janet Fleming said.

## Wetter than normal for most

Believe it or not, for most of Taranaki, it has been a wetter January than normal, according to Taranaki Regional Council figures.

Rainfall for January was above normal by between 109 % and 292 % for all sites except Kapoiaia (88 %) and Taungatara (89 %). The majority of the rain fell on January 4 and 5 and January 18, with the region experiencing warm, dry days since January 24. Rainfall was recorded on as little as five days (Manaia) and up to 14 days (Egmont Village). The rainfall site Omaru at Charlie's Clearing (Eastern Hill Country site) recorded a rather impressive 292 % of normal rainfall with 269.0 mm for the month. A thunderstorm on January 29 that lasted just an hour and a quarter, produced 52.5 mm of rain.



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# Wellington to host Young Farmer regional final

A former cocktail bartender, an award-winning contract milker and a drone-flying drystock farmer will face off in the Taranaki/Manawatu Regional Final of the FMG Young Farmer of the Year.

networking side of the contest. It's a great opportunity to meet people," said the keen cook, who was born on the farm behind the Tui Brewery at Mangatainoka. Vet student Emma Dangen



**Guy Harvey of Kaponga**

They'll go up against Kieran McCahon, who recently completed a Bachelor Agricultural Science at Massey University.

He grew up on a 1000-cow dairy farm near Dargaville in Northland.

"In 2017, I was one of two New Zealanders to attend a youth summit organised by Syngenta examining issues facing smallholder farmers in Vietnam," said the 21-year-old.

The regional final is being held at Crawford Green, Miramar on February 24. The evening show, hosted by Te Radar, is at the Wellington College.

It's the 50th anniversary of the iconic agricultural competition which was first held in 1969.

*Brad Markham*

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**Nick Brown demonstrates his fencing skills.**

Farmers from across the lower North Island will descend on the nation's capital for the event on February 24.

hopes years of studying at Massey University will help her outsmart the boys.

"Competing has always been a dream of mine," said

competing in the Northern Regional Final.

Emma will be going up against Kimbolton contract milker Michael McCombs, who was named Taranaki Dairy Trainee of the Year in 2015.

Michael is a volunteer firefighter and spent six months mustering cattle in the Australian outback.

"I'd hardly ridden a horse before I got there, but I knew enough not to come off too many times," he laughed.

Michael is one of three finalists from Marton Young Farmers.

The club's vice-chairman, Will Taylor, is a Feilding-based technical field rep for PGG Wrightson.

"I enjoy getting out there and benchmarking myself against other professionals in the industry," said the

26-year-old.

Will spent three years driving tractors and combine harvesters in West Australia.

"I've also worked as a bartender at a cocktail bar in Palmerston North," he laughed.

His clubmate Lachlan

Fee is in his second season managing a 600-cow dairy farm at Opiki.

The 26-year-old was stoked to finally win a district contest, after placing third twice.

"It seemed like I was always the bridesmaid, never the bride," he said.



**Dylan Brunton.**

It's the second of seven regional finals being held across New Zealand to decide contestants for the grand final of the prestigious competition in Invercargill in July.

the 23-year-old who's in the final year of a Bachelor of Veterinary Science.

Emma's brother Tim is

Nick Brown is the oldest contestant in the Taranaki/Manawatu Regional Final.

"This will be my last chance at winning," said the 30-year-old who has a Diploma in Agriculture from Lincoln University.

Nick and his wife Sophie use a drone to make video blogs about life on their Toko sheep and beef farm.

It'll be his friend Dylan Brunton's first time competing.

"My strengths are probably any modules involving machinery like tractors and quad bikes," he said.

The 25-year-old has a Bachelor of Science majoring in ecology and zoology from Massey University and is a 2IC on a 510-cow dairy farm at Cardiff.

Guy Harvey contract milks 220 cows in nearby Kaponga.

"I really enjoy the

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# Get growing: how to draw up a pasture repair plan for autumn

Many pastures have taken a beating over recent months, either from too much rain, too little rain or in many cases both of these scenarios.

If this sounds like your farm, now is the time to draw up a pasture repair plan for autumn. In the short term, this will get grass growing again across your farm before winter. Further down the track, it will ensure a staged recovery of your affected paddocks over the next 12 months.

“Repair options vary, depending on the number of affected paddocks, and how badly each has been damaged. The one thing we strongly discourage is doing nothing!” says Will Henson, pasture systems manager for Agriseeds.

“Doing nothing can end up costing more than you realise, because of the need to buy in supplements to replace lost DM production. And feed delivered on a truck is expensive.”

The first step is to check all paddocks, and break them down into three groups according to their condition. Group 1 is for pastures which are least damaged and likely to continue growing well, given the chance. Group 2 is for pastures which are

partially damaged, with reduced DM growth. Group 3 is for severely damaged pastures.

Group 1 pastures are the most important, Will says. They will return to normal production quickest, and help you feed stock and/or set feed up for lambing and calving. Group 1 paddocks are the ones with a good, even population of live ryegrass plants. These should be given every chance to recover and persist in the weeks ahead. Avoid over-grazing and add a bit of N fertiliser (moisture permitting) to boost them along.

Group 2 pastures have thinned out as a result of the poor conditions, but don't need full renewal straight away. They can be patched up with undersowing, which is simply direct-drilling seed into a pasture with no prior herbicide. This means they will last another two or three years, after which they can either be topped up again with more undersowing, or renewed into new perennial pasture.

“The benefits of this are that you can tackle large areas relatively quickly and cheaply, and get some fast feed growing before winter, using short term ryegrass



Agriseeds pasture systems manager Will Henson.

like Shogun,” Will says. The keys to success with undersowing are to target into thin or open pastures and do it fast, before weeds colonise bare ground.”

Group 3 pastures have less than 50% of ryegrass plants remaining, have high weed

populations and/or have been severely damaged by pugging, summer drought or insects. One good option for these, where winter feed is a concern, is to sow them now in Hogan annual ryegrass.

“This will grow a fast bulk

of high quality grass through the cooler months, after which you can follow with a summer forage crop like 501 Chicory in spring, and then new perennial pasture in autumn 2019,” Will says.

His final piece of advice?

“Look at what plan is going to get you through the next 12 months best, and seek advice to help if needed. Whatever you do, don't throw cheap seed at this problem as the seed quality is not guaranteed.”

## Fed Farmers praise Bill English

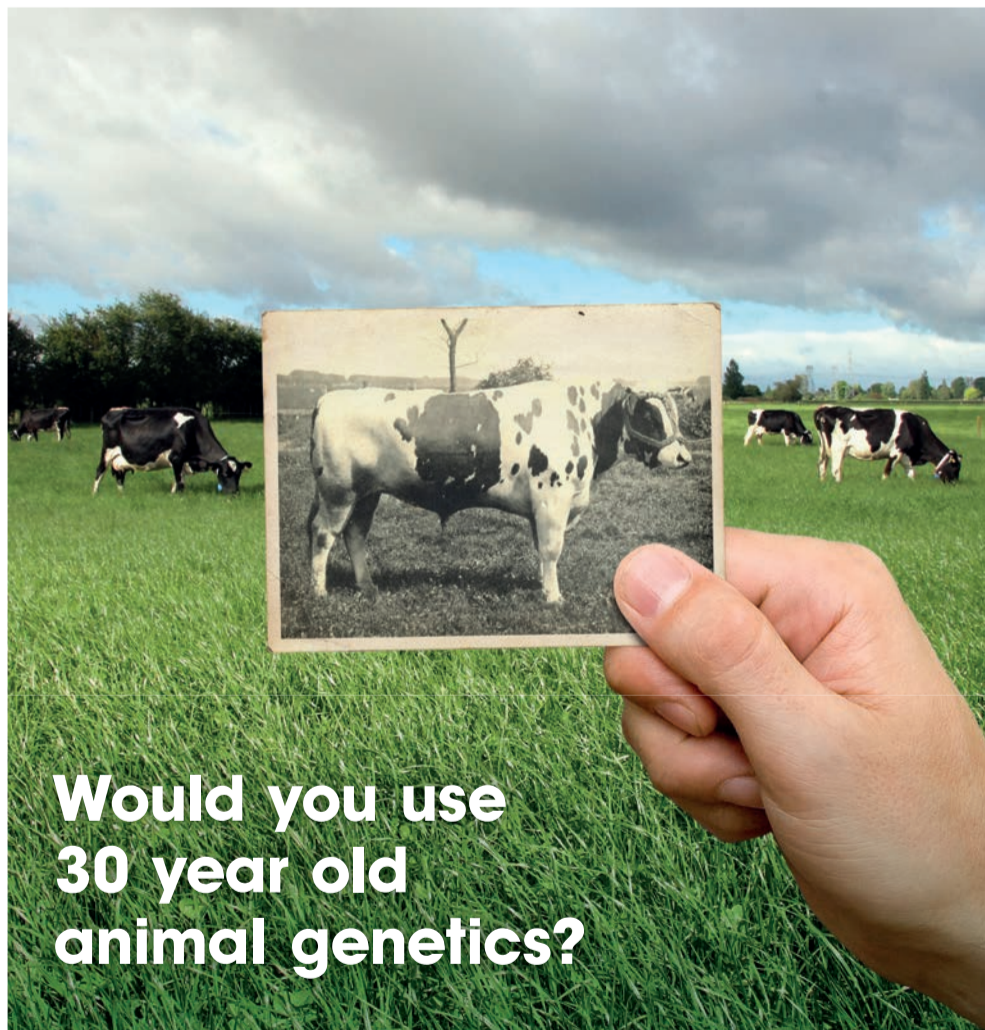
Bill English proved to be a consistently safe pair of hands as Finance Minister, guiding New Zealand through the global financial crisis, the Christchurch and Kaikoura/Hurunui earthquakes and the dairy downturn, Federated Farmers President Katie Milne has said.

“A straight-up farm boy from Dipton, he is a guy that many New Zealanders could relate to.

“He demonstrated he wasn't just an astute manager of the nation's finances, but through his approach to social investment revealed he was a caring leader who really wanted to make a difference for the less-well off,” Katie said.

“He can leave Parliament with his head held high. He's scheduled to take part in a sheep shearing event at the South Island Field Days on Friday and if he makes it, there will be plenty of farmers lined up to salute him.”

**We welcome your contributions  
Please send to  
editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz**



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# Pungarehu/Golf Zone Coastal Championship, 27 holes

The Coastal Championship has been running since 1951 and has been competed for by many people. As long as you have a handicap and are a member of a club the game is on.

It is held on Waitangi day (February 6) each year. A unique format, the competition has gross, net, stableford over 27 holes. There are six divisions, four men's and two ladies and trophies are awarded for all divisions.

The weather was fine and warm with a slight breeze getting up in the afternoon. The course was in fine form and challenged everyone. All the volunteers had been busy getting everything in top condition and with Golf Zone sponsoring all was in place for a great day.

Results. Division 1: Men 0 -12. Gross: Joseph Doyle (1) 101/99.5/55. Nett: R. Barlow(10) 105/90/65 Stableford: Alan Crowley (12) 116/98/58.

Division 2: Men 13-

17. Gross: John Gilligan (14)109/88/67. Nett: Blake Barrett (14)110/89/66. Stableford: Jacob Goperth (15) 114/91.5/63.

Division 3: Men 18-24. Gross: Daniel Crowley (19) 121/92.5/60. Nett: John Van Der Poel (22) 124/91/64. Stableford: Kevin Billing (23) 129/95.5/60.

Division 4: Men 25 - 36. Gross: Jimmy Ellis (29) 128/84.5/72. Nett: Stacey Bateman (26) 137/98/58

Stableford: Sione Tuitupou (27) 155/114.5/52.

Division 1: Ladies 0 - 18. Gross: Sharon Adamson (13) 122/102.5/57. Nett: Annie Fram (15) 136/113.5/47.

Stableford: Faye Rowe (13) 137/118.5/42

Division 2: 19+. Gross: Anna Crowley (23) 145/110.5/49. Nett: H Kelly (27) 147/106.5/54.

Stableford: Robyn Barrett (25) 151/113.5/46



Tournament winners with sponsor from Golf Zone. From left.Paul Haskell (sponsor), Joseph Doyle, John Gilligan, Anna Crowley, Sharon Adamson, Daniel Crowley, Jimmy Ellis.

## Get your E-bikes at Edbikes

Edbikes Ltd is a new business focused purely on electric bikes, based in the old Underwood factory on Mamaku Street Inglewood, owned and operated by Rob Edhouse and his partner Jane Molloy. Rob came to Inglewood from New Plymouth in 1979 to serve his engineering apprenticeship

with the Moa Dairy factory. His other company, Edhouse Engineering & Computers has been servicing computers for Taranaki businesses and small rural schools in Kaponga and Hawera for over 20 years.

After a lot of research and a trip to China with Colin Boyd from Inglewood

Loaderparts who helped establish Chinese trade contacts, we have sourced what we believe is a fantastic line of quality E-Bikes and conversion kits developed in Austria and manufactured to EN15194 Standard in China for export to Europe and the UK. Importing and selling

direct to the public has enabled us to make these bikes affordable to everyone without compromising quality.

We supply a range of e-bikes, but the most fun one is the 24 speed mountain bike with a 300 watt rear hub motor. They are amazing for riding tracks and trails or a quick ride up to the mountain house. They take all the hard work out of having fun, and with the adjustable power assist you can still give yourself a good workout but cover more distance.

In the coming year we are bringing in some exciting new e-bikes including

carbon fibre models, fat tyre folding bikes with mag wheels, and some with full suspension, so keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates.

We can also supply the full range of accessories for both E and non e-bikes. Some of

you may have seen us at the Stratford A&P show last year with a range of our E bikes on display. There was a lot of interest shown from people from all over Taranaki, so we hope to be there bigger and better next year.

Rob Edhouse



Electric bikes are a great way to see the country.

## Maniaia golf results

End of month. 1. Denis Hurcomb. 2. Kingsley Young. 3. Bruce Gibson. Monday night Ambrose. January 29. 1. Corona and no Red. 2. Winks Rd. 3. Golfing Gibbies. 4. Tui & Red. 5. Nigel & Friends. Junior. Kieran Taylor 15. Maxwell Stechman 20. Saturday. Men's Stableford. 1. Jim Ngere. 2.

Kingsly Young. 3. Robert Snowdon. 4. Craig Jones. Nett Eagles. Noddy Symes. 1<sup>st</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>. John Oliver 3<sup>rd</sup>. Kingsly Young 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>. Rod Le Fleming 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>. Colin Koch 5<sup>th</sup>. Craig Jones 5<sup>th</sup>. Robert Snowdon 2<sup>nd</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>. Jim Ngere 11<sup>th</sup>. February 10. Men. 1. Denis Hurcomb. 2. Jim Ngere. 3. Trevor Larsen. 4. John

Oliver and Grant Gibbs. February 5. Monday night Ambrose. 1. Winks Rd. 2. Tui & Red. 3. Auroa Hackers. 4. Mahi. Junior. Peepees. 1. Hannah Symes. 2. Chantel Wong. 3. Connor Thomas. Eagles. 1. Carter Symes. 2. Jayda Sharp. 3. Daniel Jones. Hawks. 1. Ashton Sharp. 2. Joe Gibson.

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**CHURCH NOTICES**

**Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES**

St Paul's Opunake Co-op & Rahotu  
 Opunake Cooperating Parish St Pauls, Havelock St  
 9.30am every Sunday and the  
 Rahotu - Wesley - 11am first Sunday of the month  
 Oakura - St James - 10am, 2nd & 4th Sundays  
 Okato - St Pauls - 10am, 1st & 3rd Sundays

**Opunake Catholic Church**

Sunday 8.30am at Pungarehu (St Martins),  
 10am at Opunake (Our Lady Star of the Sea)  
 Other areas  
 Manaia - Sacred Heart - 1st, 3rd Sat at 5pm  
 (2nd, 4th & 5th Sat at Hawera's St Josephs)  
 Kaponga - St Patricks, Sunday 8.45am  
 All welcome

**The Wave**

Pentecostal Church 64 Domett St, Opunake  
 Sunday Services 10.30am  
 Women's Group 10.30am Tuesday  
 Men's Group 7pm Wednesday  
 Youth Group 7pm Friday  
 Come along or contact Pastor Murray  
 027 688 7378

**St. Barnabas Anglican Church**

141 Tasman St, Opunake  
 Sunday Services 10am  
 Communion 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday  
 Prayer & Praise 1st Sunday  
 Every 5th Sunday all 4 churches gather for  
 a Combined Service

**Okato Community Church**

Meets 6.30pm Sunday at Hempton Hall.  
 Everyone welcome

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**Next issue out March 2 2018**

**Getting Married?**  
 We would love to share  
 your special day with  
 our readers. Send in a  
 photo and details of how  
 you met to editorial@  
 opunakecoastalnews.  
 co.nz



**LOST**

**MISSING!**

**Answers to Franklyn or Frankie.**



Our beautiful boy Franklyn (who also answers to Frankie) is missing and we need help finding him. He was last seen on Ahu Ahu Road on Thursday 25th January. He is a long haired, neutered, ginger boy and may have gotten scared off when there was a cat fight on the road. Please check your sheds or sections if you live in the area.

**If you have seen him or have any information please call:**  
**Audrey on (06) 752 1005 or 021 128 8223**  
**OR Chinta on 021 255 1542**

**PUBLIC NOTICES**



**CREATIVE COMMUNITIES SCHEME**  
**Funding Local Arts Activities**

Applications for funding assistance for community-based arts activities in South Taranaki beginning after Friday 20 April 2018 are now being called for. Your application will need to meet one or more of the following funding criteria:

- **Broad community involvement** - A project that will create opportunities for local communities to engage with and participate in arts activities.
- **Diversity** - A project that will support the diverse arts and cultural traditions of local communities, enriching and promoting their uniqueness and cultural diversity.
- **Young people** - A project that will enable and encourage young people (under 18 years) to engage with and actively participate in the arts.

Application forms are available from all LibraryPlus Centres, at the Council Contact Centre in Albion Street, Hawera or the Creative Communities Scheme Administrator, or on the Council website [www.southtaranaki.com](http://www.southtaranaki.com) under Funding and Grants Support.

For further information, please contact Maryse Ropiha, the Creative Communities Scheme Administrator at:

South Taranaki District Council  
 Private Bag 902, Hawera 4640  
 Phone 0800 111 323 or 2780555  
 Email [maryse.ropiha@stdc.govt.nz](mailto:maryse.ropiha@stdc.govt.nz)

Applications close **Thursday 29 March 2018 at 4.30pm**  
 (for projects beginning after Friday 20 April 2018)



**OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

Opunake Business Association would like to Congratulate Terry and Jude Lyon (ticket 304) who were the very surprised and grateful winners of the Opunake Business Association Grand voucher raffle. The funds raised from the raffle went towards the costs of running the Christmas Parade.

We would also like to take this opportunity to say thanks to all who purchased a ticket and especially to all the businesses who contributed vouchers to make this raffle happen.



**THIRD RATES INSTALMENT**

Ratepayers are reminded that the last day for payment of the third instalment of rates for 2017/2018 without incurring a penalty will be **Wednesday 28 February 2018.**

**WD Crockett**  
**Chief Executive**



**OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

**Meeting 1st MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 5.30PM**

**Hughsons & Associates Boardroom at the Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier St, Opunake**  
 (opposite the CoastalCare Medical Centre)





**PUBLIC NOTICES**

We are seeking  
Whanau, Morehu and voluntary workers for  
**TE PARIHA O OHINETUHIRAU**  
**(fundraiser)**

at  
**Orimupiko Marae, Eltham Rd, Opunake**  
for three days leading up to our main event on  
Sunday February 25

Accommodation is available  
Please bring sleeping gear, etc.  
Friday February 23rd and Saturday 24th  
will be shared kai -food.

Orimupiko Marae will be open from 9am on Friday the  
23rd for delivery of kai - food, gazebos, etc. If your are  
bringing your own utensils please clearly name or mark  
them so they can be returned to you.

Sorry, no Hangi due to fire restrictions.

Koha donation at gate for concert.  
Introduction at Orimupiko Marae for all voluntary  
workers will be held on Sunday February 25 at 4.30am  
Nga mihi-nui  
Na  
Ruahau Rangī  
Ph. 021 028 55068

**OPUNAKE RAHOTU VETERINARY  
TRUST**

Financial assistance is available to students to  
undergo tertiary education relating preferably  
to agricultural or horticultural studies  
although consideration will be given to other  
applicants.

Application forms available from:-

**The Secretary**  
**P O Box 117**  
**OPUNAKE 4616**  
**PHONE 761-7150**  
**EMAIL: nevisbrewer@gmail.com**



**ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING**

To be held at the  
clubrooms  
5 Pinny Drive Eltham

**On Monday 5th March  
2018 at 7:30pm.**

All members and  
intending members  
welcome.

Club nights Mondays and  
Fridays from 7pm.

All gear and tuition  
supplied.

No Firearms Licence  
required.



**ANNUAL  
GENERAL  
MEETING**

Saturday March 10  
at 7.00pm,  
Opunake Fire Station

*Drinks and Meet & Greet  
at 6.30pm*

*Supper at conclusion of  
meeting*

Inquiries to Sec. Rev.  
Geoff Williams  
06 761 8510

**What's On Listings**



**JONATHAN YOUNG**

Need to chat with your Local MP Jonathan Young?  
Jonathan will now hold his meetings at Coastal Care. Refer advert for details.  
For more information phone: 06 7591363  
Or email [newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz)

**OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

Meet on the 1st Monday of each month.

**OPUNAKE COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB**

Second Sunday of each month at the Opunake Town Hall, 1-4pm. All welcome

**SCHNITZEL NIGHT**

Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato

**COASTALCARE – LISA KEEN AUDIOLOGY**

Wednesdays 9am - 5pm, for an appointment call 027 591 4222 - 0800 555 676

**TAI CHI BASICS**

Thursdays 9am – 10am at Coastal Care Community Room

**NIGEL CLIFFE ACUPUNCTURE**

Thursdays 11am-4pm at Coastalcare, Opunake.

**CLUB HOTEL TEXAS HOLDEM POKER**

Wednesday and Thursday Nights at the Club Hotel.

**CLUB HOTEL POOL**

Tuesday Nights. New players welcome.

**OPUNAKE SURF INN**

Every day free pool. Every Sunday afternoon. Pool comp

**COASTAL YOUNG FARMERS**

Meet 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at the Okato Bowling Club.

**TARANAKI COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME, MANAIA**

Running every Thursday night from 7.30pm, 11 Surf Highway, South Road, Manaia.

**EGMONT EUCHRE CLUB**

Meets every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club

**CAPE EGMONT HISTORIC LIGHT & MUSEUM**

Open 11am – 3pm weekends, Bayly Road, Warea.

**ELTHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FRIDAY MARKETS**

8am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham.

**PREGNANCY HELP TARANAKI**

Is now in OPUNAKE! Are you pregnant? Do you have a baby or young family? To hear more, like us on facebook [www.facebook.com/preghelptaranaki/](http://www.facebook.com/preghelptaranaki/). Please come and meet us and find out how we may be able to help you.

**OPUNAKE FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

Meeting last Monday of each month in Opunake Town Hall at 1.30pm. All welcome.

**TAINUI DAY CENTRE - 141 Tasman Street Opunake.**

Each Monday at 10:00 12:30. \$2 donation. Recreational & Social Friendship. To those of more mature years. Come yourself or bring a friend. A warm welcome, have no fear. Happiness & laughter we intend.

More information call Jenny 06 7618080 or Glenys 06 655802

**MOVIES AT EVERYBODY'S THEATRE IN OPUNAKE**

Playing several days and nights each week. Refer timetable and ad for details..

**TRC GARDEN EVENTS IN FEBRUARY**

February 4 to March 30

At Tupare and Pukeiti. Refer advert for details.

**PUKEITI BUFFET LUNCH GARDEN TOUR**

February 7 to March 30 at Pukeiti. Refer to advert for details.

**NATURAL PROGRESSION EXHIBITION AT THE VILLAGE GALLERY**

February 12 to March 9. Refer advert.

**THE WHEELHOUSE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS WORKSHOPS**

At various locations from February 15. Refer last issues advert for locations and times.

**BLISTERED FINGERS PLAYING LIVE AT BUTLERS REEF**

Friday February 16. Refer advert.

**OPUNAKE COTTAGE REST HOME OPEN HOME AND GARAGE SALE**

February 17 from 10am to 2pm.

**PIHAMA LAVENDAR MARKET DAY**

Sunday February 18 at Pihama Lavendar, Main Rd, Pihama.

**'MY BABY' LIVE AT BUTLERS REEF, OAKURA**

Sunday February 18. Refer advert.

**OPUNAKE MUSIC WORKSHOP**

20th February. Refer advert.

**DEEP SEA CRUISE EVENING WITH TRAVELSMART**

February 21 at Travelsmart, Strandon.

**FREE SEMINAR ON TINNITUS AND HEARING LOSS**

Come and learn about the anatomy and physiology of hearing and how problems can be improved. At the Quality Hotel Plymouth International in New Plymouth on February 22. Refer advert.

**TE PARIHA O OHINETUHIRAU FUNDRAISER**

Orimupiko Marae on Eltham Rd, Opunake. Sunday February 25. Marae open from Friday the 23rd. Refer advert for details.

**LIFE ON SUPERANNUATION SEMINAR**

Budgeting in Your Retirement seminar to be held at Coastal Care, Opunake on March 2. Refer advert for details.

**ELTHAM SMALLBORE RIFLE CLUB AGM**

Monday March 5, 7.30pm at Clubrooms. Refer advert for details.

**ST BARNABAS CHURCH MARKET MORNING**

Saturday March 10, 9am. Variety of stalls, displays, arts and crafts, baking, and raffle. At 141 Tasman St, Opunake.

**OPUNAKE DISTRICT RSA AGM**

Saturday March 10, 6.30pm at the Opunake Fire Station. Refer advert for details.

People who put in public notices and display adverts in the  
What's on Section for events are welcome to additionally  
provide extra editorial and photos FREE OF CHARGE to help  
promote the event

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the  
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- The Health Shop, Centre City, New Plymouth
- Westside Grille, Tukapa St, Westtown
- The Store, Cnr Tukapa St & Wallath Rd, Westtown (By the Locals Café)
- Nth Taranaki Community House, 67 McLean St, Waitara
- Inglewood Book Centre, 31 Rata St, Inglewood





# Celebrating a 30 year vintage

During 2018 the Taranaki Vintage Machinery Club are proud to be celebrating 30 years since the club was formed.

We will be holding events throughout the year, starting with the first ever Vintage Machinery Working Weekend, over the weekend of March 10-11.

This event will be kindly hosted by the Lintern family, at 172 Turuturu Road, Hawera. Gates will be open from 10-4 both days. Entry will be \$5 for adults, and free for kids. (No eftpos)

This event will be different to other events held by the club, with the main focus being vintage machinery at work.

The weekend will feature vintage haymaking, land cultivation including ploughing, discing, seeding etc, vintage stationary engines, steam engine and tractor rides, vintage tractor pulls, static tractor displays, kids activities, horses ploughing, a blacksmith,



**Plowing up the field**  
vintage crawlers, plus the club will be joined by local car and motorbike clubs, as

well as the military club who will be putting tanks, trucks, jeeps, and more through their paces.

There will be food and drink available, or you're welcome to bring a picnic.

Parking will be by gold coin donation, with profits going to the Normanby and Districts Lions Club.

It promises to be a fantastic day out for the family and there will be a huge amount to see and do, at little cost.

Hope to see you there.

For more information you can contact Rob Lintern 027 272 8335 or Kelvin Whittington 027 278 5341 or check us out on Facebook <https://m.facebook.com/>



**Digging up the soil.**



**Do you like my mower?**

**Taranaki Vintage Machinery Club**

**The Vintage Machinery Working Weekend 2018**

**March 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> 2018**  
**Lintern's Property**  
**172 Turuturu Road**  
**Hawera**

**Featuring** Tractor Pull Event, Tractor Dyno, Insane V8 Tractors, Old & New Tractors, Crawlers Ploughing, Discing, Sickle Bar Mowing, Vintage Engines, Vintage Hay Baling, Military Display, Car Displays, Grand Parade Each Day, Static Displays, Fairground Organ, Children's Activities and Play Area, Tractor Cart Rides, Steam Engines, Blacksmith, Sack Races, The Vintage Scone Caravan, Steam Engine Rides and much more. Food and Drinks available.




**1988 - 2018**

Bring a Family Picnic Along

Admission - Adults \$5 - Children Free - (No EFTPOS)  
Off Road Parking - Gold Coin Donation to the Normanby & Districts Lions Club  
10am - 4pm Daily  
Contact: Rob Lintern - 027 272 8335 / Kelvin Whittington 027 2785341

Facebook - Taranaki Vintage Machinery Club Working Weekend 2018



**Checking the machines at an agricultural show.**



# Roman Rudnytsky playing at the Eltham Town Hall

Roman Rudnytsky in an internationally active concert pianist of Ukrainian background whose frequent performances take him all over the world - to every continent and places in-between. He is in fact one of the most travelled of all concert pianists, having played in more countries than almost all others. As of 2010, he has performed in about 95 countries - more countries than most classical performers of any kind have played in.

In addition to performances in capital cities and important musical centres, he often plays in places away from the musical mainstream, bringing the world and pleasure of classical music to audiences which seldom experience this type of music in live performance. He has received much acclaim in the world's press and many reinventions.

Born in New York into a

prominent Ukrainian musical family, he began the study of piano at age 4 and gave his first full recital at age 7. He is a graduate of the famous Juilliard School in New York and also did additional studies at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, Maryland and at master classes in Austria (the "Mozarteum") and Italy.

Mr. Rudnytsky is a prize-winner in ten piano competitions, including such prestigious ones as the International Leventritt Competition (New York) and International J.S. Bach Competition (Washington) and, in Italy, the "F. Busoni" and "A. Casagrande" International Piano Competitions. He has made numerous recordings in Poland, Australia and the United States.

In addition to his many recitals, Mr. Rudnytsky has also appeared as a soloist with many orchestras around the

world. He has played over 45 different works for piano and orchestra with them.

He also conducts master classes and workshops for local piano students and teachers during the course of his travels. The settings for these ranges from universities to small, rural towns and villages.

Since 1972, Mr. Rudnytsky has been a member of the piano faculty of the Dana School of Music at Youngstown State University in Youngstown, Ohio (U.S.A.). He is a recipient of that institution's "Distinguished Professor Award" in recognition of his concert activities. He previously served on the piano faculties of the Indiana University School of Music (Bloomington, Indiana) and the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory, in addition to being "Artist-in-Residence" at two Australian universities.



Roman Rudnytsky will be playing at the Eltham town Hall on Friday 23rd of March from 7.30 pm. Tickets available from the Eltham library or Hawera I site.

## Work of 40 artists now online



Margaret Scott, Water for everyone..

In December-January, to celebrate 20 years that the Virtual Tart website has been showing the work of Taranaki artists, we had an exhibition Tart ART in the Molloy Gallery in Tataraimaka. It looked so good that I've put it online so people a long way from Taranaki can see it, on the Virtual Tart site.

It has work by 40 Taranaki artists, and was a stunning show in the gallery, I hope I've been able to capture a bit of the magic for the online show.

WordART - an open exhibition in March has works with or about or using words. All artists are welcome to be part of this. Details on [tart.co.nz/WordART.htm](http://tart.co.nz/WordART.htm)

Could images be in by



Old school pens by Paul Hutchison



Dale Copeland



Out of the Clouds, Darren Mackey.

February 20 please. There'll be a book of the exhibition.

And the 20th and last International Collage Exchange will be in August. Works to me by July please. Details on [outofsight.co.nz/Dale/collage.htm](http://outofsight.co.nz/Dale/collage.htm)

It's a busy year. cheers, and thanks Dale Copeland

PIHAMA  
Lavender  
Growers and Makers  
**MARKET DAY**  
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18TH 10am - 2pm

## Opunake Music Workshop

7:30pm Tuesday, 20th February 2018

CoastalCare, 26 Napier Street, Opunake.

Bring instruments, basic amplification provided.



Functions, Events & Corporate.  
Sound - Lighting - Video.

- We setup & operate our own Sound Equipment.
- We setup & operate our LED Lasers & Stage Lights.
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# Americarnival coming to town

The Taranaki public can view the cars at the below locations and times. Wednesday February 21.

Opunake Beach. Cars on display 11:30pm – 2:30pm.

Thursday February 22. Waitara CBD. Cars on display, food and stalls. 12:30pm – 3:00pm. Inglewood CBD Street Party. Cars on display, food vendors, and craft stalls and performance by Auckland band Che Orton. 4:00pm – 8:00pm.

Friday. February 23. Stratford. Cars on display, market day, kid's activities, music. 10:20am – 12:15pm. Hawera CBD. Cars on display,

music, Go-Stop Drags at 2:30pm. 1:15pm – 5:15pm. New Plymouth. Friday night main street cruising Devon Street 6:15pm – 9:30pm. Saturday February 24. 10:00am – 3:00pm

The city will come alive with fabulous cars, activities for the kids, live music, and a carnival market-day atmosphere. This is a free, fun day out for the whole family to enjoy together. The Americarnival is proudly brought to you by the New Plymouth District Council.

Americarnival is about family friendly fun, and Puke Ariki Landing will host a variety of activities for kids of

all ages including the merry go round and bouncy castle, and what carnival would be complete without flags for the kids? There will be inflatable horizontal bungee, bouncy boxing, paintball shooting, and a super surfer to challenge yourself on. Look out for the stilt walker giving out balloons and get your face painted today too. For those who love a bit of racing, the race car simulators will be in the tent, so you can put your driving skills to the test.

The day is also about the cars. You will get a chance to get up close and personal with the modern and the classic machines and their owners between 10:00am – 3:00pm. Hundreds of American



Graham Giacometti and his 1934 Packard at Americarna 2016



Americarna cars head down to Opunake Beach

vehicles from Vintage 1920s to the latest models will be parked on display along Devon Street between Gover Street and Robe Street. Also, on display with be some muscle cars available for purchase, located outside the Puke Ariki Library, 4 Guys Autobarn will be joining us, and you too can purchase your own American car to join in the 2019 event.

Soak up the atmosphere in the Huatoki Plaza with live music from the 'Southern Diplomats.' Browse through our 'Retro Market' with stalls operating along Currie Street between Centre City Shopping Centre and Devon Street. Americarna merchandise will be available for purchase at the Huatoki Plaza so grab your piece of Americarna and wear it with

pride. There will be a variety of craft stalls in and around the Huatoki Plaza.

There will be American hot dogs, donuts, fruit ice creams and snow cones available for purchase at the Puke Ariki Landing plus good food and refreshments options nearby in the surrounding local bars

Continued page 25



## IS ROARING INTO TOWN!

**Opunake - WEDNESDAY 21 FEB - Opunake Beach 11.30am - 2.30pm**

The cars will be entering town via SH45 from New Plymouth and will drive through town to Layard Street where they will turn right and head down to the beach via Bowen Cres and Fox Street. Beach Street will be closed to public traffic from 10am till the cars have finished departing town for New Plymouth (approximately 3.30pm).

**Hawera - FRIDAY 23 FEB - Hawera Town Centre 1.15pm - 5.15pm**

The cars will be arriving via SH45 from Stratford (driving via Mahoe, Kaponga and Manaia), along South Road and Caledonia Street. They will be parked on High Street (from Argyle to Caledonia Street), some of Union and Regent Streets will also be used. Albion Street (from High to Erin Street) and the Community Centre carpark will be closed for the Repco Go-Stop Drags, which will start at approximately 2.30pm. Please note the roads where the cars are parked will be closed from 11am until the cars have finished departing at approximately 6.00pm.

Come and check out the 500+ vehicles on display

Supported by:



For further details contact:

South Taranaki District Council Events @ TSB Hub, 06 278 0646



# Americarnival coming to town

Continued from page 24

and cafes.  
 Saturday February 24. New Plymouth CBD – Americarnival 10:00am – 3:00pm. Cars on display throughout the main street, stalls at Huatoki Plaza and Currie Street, free activities for the kids on Puke Ariki Landing and music from the Southern Diplomats (10:30am – 2:30pm) at Huatoki Plaza. This is a free family fun day.  
 At 11am and 1pm the Chevy Vega Nitro Funny Car of Karl Boniface will fire up – located outside Peggy Gordons Bar and Eatery. At 12am and 2pm the Nitro Altered Drag Car

of Dave Gould will fire up – located opposite Crowded House Bar and Eatery.  
 Line Dancing will be on the street outside Front Runner at 11:30am, 12:30pm and 1:30pm so when you hear the music start join in the fun – they will teach you the moves.  
 Free community buses will run from Hawera, Opunake and Uruti to New Plymouth and return on Saturday February 24. All activities are free once you get there. We want to encourage families to get out and enjoy a day together that provides something for everyone – cars, fun, shopping, food and

music. Bring a picnic and enjoy lunch at Puke Ariki Landing or the Clock Tower gardens.  
 Seat bookings are essential – you will not be able to turn up at the pick-up locations and hop on the bus without having pre booked.  
 Bookings can be made right up until February 20.  
 How to book: Contact Taryn with your name the number of seats required. Email – Taryn@jri.co.nz  
 Phone – 06 758 8440 (JRI Office and ask for Taryn). [www.americarna.com](http://www.americarna.com)



Parked up at the Opunake Beach landing



There will be many great opportunities to see some beautiful American cars next weekend throughout Taranaki from 21st February



**SATURDAY 24TH FEBRUARY**

FREE FAMILY FUN DAY

## AMERICARNIVAL

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE  
NEW PLYMOUTH DISTRICT COUNCIL

American cars on display throughout the New Plymouth CBD. Free children's activities at Puke Ariki Landing, craft stalls on Currie Street and Huatoki Plaza, music and much more!

At 11am & 1pm the Nitro Drag Car of Karl Boniface will fire up – located outside Peggy Gordons Celtic Bar, on the corner of Devon Street and Egmont St.

At 12pm and 2pm the Nitro Altered Drag Car of Dave Gould will fire up – located outside Crowded House Bar and Eatery on Devon Street central.

Seat Bookings are essential as limited seats are available. Contact Taryn prior to 22nd February to book your seat. Phone JRI Office on 06 758 8440 and ask for Taryn, or email: [taryn@jri.co.nz](mailto:taryn@jri.co.nz)



## FREE FAMILY BUSES – SAT 24 FEB 2018

HAWERA > NEW PLYMOUTH > HAWERA

TOWN	LOCATION	ARRIVAL TIME	DEPART TIME
Hawera	Outside i-Site, 55 High Street		8.30am
Normanby	Outside Normanby School, Main Rd	8.38am	8.45am
Eltham	Bus Stop opposite BP, Main Road	8.55am	9.02am
Stratford	Northern Dairy, Broadway SH3	9.15am	9.25am
Midhirst	Midhirst Dairy, Mountain Road, SH3	9.30am	9.37am
Tariki	Icon Sports, Mountain Road, SH3	9.42am	9.50am
Inglewood	Outside Inglewood Club, Moa Street	9.57am	10.05am
Egmont Village	Opposite EV Tractor Parts, Junction Rd	10.11am	10.20am
New Plymouth	CBD	10.35am	3.00pm



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The aircraft have a pressurised cabin with twin turbo prop engines and are flown by a two-pilot crew. With about 500 Jetstream's flying worldwide, these British Aerospace aircraft are renowned in many countries for their comfort and reliability. Fly with Originair to your destination and experience a direct, fast and comfortable service. Book now at [www.originair.nz](http://www.originair.nz)

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3:40pm

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#### TUESDAY

QUIZ NIGHT at 7pm  
Entry is free

#### WEDNESDAY

\$20 Steak Night  
From 5pm

#### THURSDAY

\$20 Fish Night  
From 5pm

#### FRIDAY February 16

Live Music at 7pm

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Every Day 3pm to 5pm

#### SATURDAY February 24

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# Natural progression in Village Gallery exhibition



Eltham artist, Aaron Tippett is 'seizing the day' as he steps out to become a full time artist.

Aaron recently retired from full time work at Fonterra and is concentrating on his art, plus being Dad to two boys.

He has spent the last six months working for his first solo exhibition, Natural Progression, which is being held at The Village Gallery, Eltham from February 12 to March 9.

He has chosen to work on landscapes because of their powerful symbolism. Weather can reflect the intended mood and set the tone for a painting.

The journey is expressed through the paintings, with a sense of arriving somewhere special, and often feature a path or river to indicate this progression.

Dead trees, sunrise and sunset also speak of the cycle of life and moving from one phase to another.

This reflects Aaron's own sense of being at the end of a phase on a journey, walking through the woods to a sunlit clearing.

Aaron's use of colour and ability to sense the 'mood' of a scene makes this an exhibition worth viewing. The gallery is open Monday – Saturday 10am – 3pm.  
*Maree Liddington*

Eltham artist Aaron Tippett

## Speed skater Shane has an Opunake connection



Shane Dobbin (aged 38) has come out of retirement to compete for New Zealand at the Pyeong Chang Winter Olympics in South Korea. His event is the 10,000 metres speed skating (with Reyon Kay and Peter Michael also competing in the event). This will be his third Olympic Games.

His father is Bob Arthur Dobbin, who was born in Opunake. (Bob, in turn, was the son of Myrtle and Sid Dobbin). Bob is a cousin of local woman Faye Brown.

**Shane Dobbin represents New Zealand at the Winter Olympics and now lives on the Gold Coast in Australia**

Shane retired in 2014 after the Winter Olympics in Sochi and is an inspirational figure to the other New Zealand competitors at the Games. "I don't regret it at all. It's been a great decision." He adds, "I train smarter, not harder."

### Natural Progression

*work by Aaron Tippett*

at The Village Gallery

**RUNS 12 FEBRUARY - 9 MARCH**

THE VILLAGE GALLERY 166 HIGH STREET, ELTHAM  
OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY 10AM - 3PM

## EVERYBODY'S THEATRE

**Opunake - MOVIES - BOUTIQUE THEATRE – HIRE**

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Check out our website at [www.everybodys theatre.co.nz](http://www.everybodys theatre.co.nz) – Phone 027 3837926

**FEBRUARY/MARCH 2018**

Lollies, Popcorn, Ice-creams, Chocolate bars, Coffee & Tea For Sale		Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs \$8, Under 4 free Senior Citizens \$8. No Eft-Pos	
ID required for all R rated movies			
	<b>DISASTER ARTIST</b> Comedy, Drama, True Story   1 hr 44mins   M When Greg Sestero, an aspiring film actor, meets the weird and mysterious Tommy Wiseau in an acting class, they form a unique friendship and travel to Hollywood to make their dreams come true. Wed 14th Feb 1pm   Fri 16th Feb 7pm		<b>MAZERUNNER- DEATH CURE</b> Action, Sci Fi, Thriller   1hr 54mins   M In the epic finale to the Maze Runner saga, Thomas leads his group of escaped Gladers on their final and most dangerous mission yet. To save their friends, they must break into the legendary Last City, that may turn out to be the deadliest maze of all. Wed 14th Feb 7pm   Sat 17th Feb 7pm
	<b>ALL THE MONEY IN THE WORLD</b> Biography, Crime, Drama   2hr 12mins   R13 Follows the kidnapping of 16-year-old John Paul Getty III and the desperate attempt by his devoted mother Gail to convince his billionaire grandfather to pay the ransom. When Getty Sr. refuses, Gail attempts to sway him as her son's captors become increasingly volatile and brutal Sun 18th Feb 7pm   Wed 21st Feb 1pm   Sat 24th Feb 7pm		<b>ALL FOR ONE !!ARTHOUSE!!</b> Documentary, Biography, Sport   1hr 40mins   M The story of GreenEdge, Australia's first ProTour cycling team. United by their renegade spirit and a determination to win against substantial odds, these riders take on the international circuit. The film offers unique insights into the first five years of their journey. Wed 21st Feb 7pm
	<b>THE SHAPE OF WATER</b> Drama, Fantasy   2hr 3mins   R16 Elisa is a mute, isolated woman who works as a cleaning lady in a hidden, high-security government laboratory in 1962 Baltimore. Her life changes forever when she discovers the lab's classified secret -- a mysterious, scaled creature from South America that lives in a water tank. Fri 23rd Feb 7pm   Sun 25th Feb 7pm   Wed 28th Feb 7pm		<b>THE POST</b> Drama, Thriller, True Story   1hr 56mins   M: Language A thrilling drama about the unlikely partnership between The Washington Post's Katharine Graham, the first female publisher of a major American newspaper, and editor Ben Bradlee, as they race to expose a massive cover-up of government secrets Fri 2nd Mar 7pm   Wed 7th Mar 7pm   Wed 14th Mar 1pm
	<b>BROKEN</b> Drama   1 hr 37mins   M: Violence An ex-gang leader must choose between forgiveness or revenge when his daughter is murdered by an old rival gang. The tale is inspired by the true New Zealand story of a young girl who was murdered by a marauding tribe in the mid 1800's. Sun 4th Mar 7pm   Wed 7th Mar 1pm   Fri 10th Mar 7pm		<b>NUT JOB 2</b> Adventure, Kids, Comedy   1hr 31min   PG Sat 17th Feb 1pm
	<b>FERDINAND</b> Animated, Kids, Family   1hr 47min   G Sat 24th Feb 1pm   Sat 3rd Mar 1pm		

Wed	Fri	Sat	Sun
14 Disaster Artist - 1pm Mazerunner - 7pm	16 Disaster Artist - 7pm	17 Nut Job 2 - 1pm Mazerunner - 7pm	18 All the money in the world 7pm
21 All the money in the world - 1pm All for One - 7pm	23 The Shape of water - 7pm	24 Ferdinand - 1pm All the money in the world - 7pm	25 The Shape of water - 7pm
28 All for One - 1pm The Shape of Water - 7pm	2 The Post - 7pm	3 Ferdinand - 1pm Mollys Game - 7pm	4 *** Boutique*** Broken - 7pm

## Life on Superannuation

### Budgeting in your Retirement

CoastalCare Facility, 26 Napier Street, Opunake  
Friday 2nd March  
1.00pm

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Light Refreshments provided  
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# My Baby goes back to prehistoric roots

My Baby will be performing at Oakura's Butlers Reef Bar and Café on Sunday February 18. They were very popular last time they performed.

It hasn't taken long for Amsterdam based psychedelic, shamanic trio My Baby's swampy blues and funk-inflected sound to cast a formidable spell, taking the world by storm.

Over the past three years, Dutch brother-sister-duo Sheik (drums) and Cato van Dyck (vocals) and New Zealand guitarist Daniel "daFreez" Johnston have had their mojo working overtime and are now ready for the release of their third album "Prehistoric Rhythm".

With their new album, the band aim to channel a primal awareness amidst hypnotic beats, shimmering soulful vocals and psychedelic riffs on the back of rootsy blues and dubbed out funk.

"Over the past two or three decades", electronic dance music has become a huge part of our culture<" says Daniel Johnston. "It's hard to fathom just how many people connect and celebrate life by going to dance parties and raves.

These gatherings are quite similar to tribal celebrations and rituals that have been around for thousands of years across all cultures in the world. The desire and need for those rituals remains and has become a fascination for us and we have made that trance-like hypnotic groove an essential part of our live performance, but it is also prevalent on a lot of the album. It's funny to think of it. Going



**My Baby is a Dutch/New Zealand trio that play roots driven hypnotic dance . It's a sound informed by voodoo blues and ancient folk and then fused with the rawness of seventies funk, African desert blues, Moroccan gnawa, Indian raga and a touch of EDM. They have been spreading their psychedelic blues-trance rave to the approval of audiences worldwide featuring on renowned festivals such as Glastonbury, Isle of Wight, Sziget, Lowlands and Pinkpop.**

back to prehistoric times, people dancing round a fire together. It's in our DNA."

My Baby's music has been influenced by the power of spiritual music (gospel and voodoo spirituals) and the entrancing hypnotic quality found in music accompanying shamanic rituals.

The roots of these phenomena can be traced back thousands of years, so

can the music. This 'tracing' has become an important part of the 'personal' vision of the band and is a central theme on the upcoming album Prehistoric Rhythm. The band has delved into some of those rituals, some of which exist to this day, and reflect on how a lot of contemporary culture has inherited from the past, that its cultural activity stems from these ancient traditions.

First single Love Dance

is an African inspired trance-like evocation of a tribal ritual involving the search for identity, love and spirituality. The protagonist is at peace after transcending the desire to feel complete through the presence and appeasement of others.

"We recorded this album primarily on a '4-track ampex deck' from the fifties," says Joost van Dijk. "We wanted it to sound old

so you feel as though you experience something not linked to the present, but rather like traveling through different eras"

With the release of their new album, My Baby endeavours to take the audience on a shamanic influenced musical journey., and develop a theatrical mythopoetic yet danceable form of music that can entice, uplift and engage the listener in a way

that it allows to discover something that resides within our collective consciousness just as the characters in the songs are forever searching for a heightened spiritual and primal awareness amongst the turmoil of our modern-day society.

Tickets are \$20 and door sales \$25.

Doors open at 5pm. Presold tickets are selling fast so don't delay in getting a ticket.

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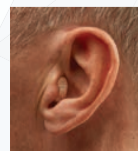
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Friday February 16th  
9pm  
In the front bar



**MY BABY**  
PREHISTORIC RHYTHM  
Sunday February 18

Tickets \$20, Door Sales \$25  
Doors open 5pm  
Bus from Crowded House @ 4.30pm, \$5pp each way



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